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# THE TIMES

No. 64,769 FRIDAY OCTOBER 8 1993

## Tory big guns call for unity

# Thatcher and Clarke rally round Major

By Philip Webster  
 Political Editor

**STRONG** pledges of backing from Kenneth Clarke and Baroness Thatcher gave John Major a much-needed boost yesterday as he prepared to make the most important speech of his career today.

The Chancellor, seen as the leading candidate to replace him, told the Conservative conference in Blackpool: "Any enemy of John Major's is an enemy of mine", and Lady Thatcher told a luncheon meeting of her closest friends that the party must put behind the prime minister.

Mr Major was given a prolonged ovation when he took his seat on the platform yesterday — a noticeably warmer reception than that accorded to Lady Thatcher when she arrived 45 minutes earlier. Although she, too, received a lengthy ovation, many people remained in

■ On the eve of his most important conference speech, John Major was boosted by Kenneth Clarke's vigorous attack on the prime minister's enemies

their seats as if to show their irritation over the leaking of her memoirs and their impact on the conference.

But it was Mr Clarke who was the most important player yesterday with his powerful speech in which he appealed for unity and defended the decision to levy VAT on fuel. Last night, he appeared to have contained the Conservative revolt over the widening of the tax, having promised extra help for millions of households. "No sensible person should condemn a tax before they have even seen our package of help for those least able to pay," he said.

Mr Major was last night putting the finishing touches to what is expected to be an upbeat speech, which will be delivered without the recourse to the autocue, the prime minister has decided instead to speak more informally from extensive notes.

Besides expressing confidence in the economy and the country, he is also sure to call for loyalty at every level, although a fierce debate has been raging among his advisers about whether he should launch a frontal attack on the so-called "devils on the fringe" whom he has blamed for party disunity.

The tensions at the top of the party were still plainly on view last night when Douglas Hurd launched a counter-offensive against the Tory right with a passionate defence of the public services. After a week in which rightwingers have dominated events, the foreign secretary warned his colleagues against unleashing a "vendetta against the state in the areas of national life where its role must be central. We do not want to break the mould of every public service afresh in every parliament. We must show that we are not driven by ideology to question every function of the state."

Mr Hurd's intervention came as the night maintained its barrage of calls for a return to Thatcherite values. Michael Portillo warned Mr Major against appearing all things to all men, and Peter Lilley demanded a revival of "conviction politics". Norman Lamont, who denied any interest in Mr Major's job, told *Channel 4 News* that there had been a shift to the right at the conference.

Elsewhere, he had angered ministers with a demand that Mr Clarke should cut the public spending target that he himself had left him. Speaking

at a fringe meeting, the former Chancellor had suggested a £5 billion cut in spending and said: "Further substantial tax increases would retard recovery, slow growth, abort job creation, penalise success and stifle endeavour." The government should not shrink from the implications of cutting funding in areas such as health and education, which had enjoyed big increases in taxpayers' money.

Told of Mr Lamont's proposals later, Mr Clarke replied: "It ain't as easy as that." In his speech, the Chancellor had left open the option of tax increases in November and later he did not rule out the possibility of introducing VAT on fuel in one instalment next April instead of two.

Mr Clarke also admitted on television last night that he would one day like to be prime minister, but at the conference he was adamant that the party should now rally behind Mr Major. "Any enemy of John Major's is an enemy of the Conservative party," he said. Mr Major had won the last election almost single handed, he added. "We must stick together in these difficult times and, most important of all, we must stick behind our

### Conference sketch

Sir Edward Heath's head was among them: Big Chief Snaking Bull. All awaited the Arrival, Sir Edward with horror. Suddenly, just as a floor speaker had called for married women to stay at home, she rushed in.

Matthew Parris, page 2

leader." Later he was even more outspoken, telling reporters: "John Major is one of my colleagues whom I would turn my back on in the dark. The fact is, the two of us are going to help our colleagues take this party through this difficult time."

At her private lunch yesterday, Lady Thatcher was fulsomely loyal to Mr Major and was clearly anxious that the word should go out to her supporters in the conference. While the Major camp remains sceptical about her stance, and suspect that Mr Portillo is her favourite, they accepted that her backing could only help Mr Major.

Blackpool reports, pages 6, 7  
 Norman Lamont, page 18  
 Leading article, page 19



Michael Heseltine acknowledges prolonged applause from conference representatives yesterday. Unusually, he was seen but not heard

## Trial of Birmingham Six police collapses

By Lin Jenkins

THE trial of the three police officers accused of perjury and conspiracy to pervert the course of justice in the Birmingham Six case collapsed at the Old Bailey yesterday.

The ruling by Mr Justice Garland that a fair trial was no longer possible ends another chapter in the tortuous and controversial legal process since the IRA atrocity 19 years ago when 21 people lost their lives in the Birmingham pub bombings.

The decision to stay the trial leaves many questions unanswered. Four of the Birmingham Six said immediately after the judgment they were planning to bring a civil action for malicious prosecution and wrongful imprisonment.

The retired Det Supt George Reade, former Det Sgt Colin Morris and former Det Con Terence Woodcock declined to comment until after the judge gives his full ruling next week.

Defence counsel had been arguing since Monday that the three could not face a fair trial because of the publicity and debate which had been generated by the case and the fact that the Crown's case referred only to whether notes taken of interviews with the suspects were contemporaneous. They argued that a jury would be bound to make decisions on matters which were not part of the trial.

Mr Justice Garland gave two reasons why a fair trial

would not be possible. The first was the "impossibility of isolating the narrow issue raised by the terms of the indictment from the much larger matrix of the 1975 trial and 1986 and 1991 appeals". He said this did not amount to criticism of the prosecution.

The second reason was "the volume and intensity of the publicity and comment from 1975 and continuing, certainly until last night, which has produced the effect that Birmingham Six has become a synonym for false confessions."

"In addition there has been extensive publicity and comment both at the time and since the successful 1991 appeal in which these defendants have been repeatedly represented as having in fact committed the offences with which they are now charged," He

recalled the jury, who had been absent throughout the three days of legal argument, and discharged them.

Shortly before his judgment he was handed the transcript of a BBC television report by Polly Tuynbee on Wednesday night about the home secretary's law reforms which linked the Birmingham Six case with false confessions.

Edmund Lawson QC, for Morris, said it was the latest example of a common practice. "It has become to the media a touchstone. Once there has been a saturation level of publicity in trenchant terms it takes little to retrigger those memories."

He had argued that a jury would be unable to restrict themselves to the narrow issue addressed by the charges that notes of interviews with one of the Six, Richard McIlkenny, were not contemporaneous. There was, he said, a "silent agenda" outside the issues before the court which could not be ignored.

Earlier in the arguments the defence had argued that it would take only one member of the jury to recall the allegations that the statement was obtained by acts of brutality for the risk of prejudice to become enormous.

The three former West Midlands officers were charged after the Court of Appeal quashed the convictions of the Six in March 1991, claiming

Continued on page 3, col 5

## Bail 'folly' attacked

By Nicholas Watt

A JUDGE yesterday criticised the "folly" of the bail system as he sentenced a teenage joyrider to seven years for killing a 13-year-old girl while on bail.

Mr Justice Roush said at Stafford Crown Court that it was a mistake to give repeated bail to young men who "showed not the slightest inclination to abide by its conditions".

He told Carl Sherwood, 17, who killed Donna Cooper in a stolen car last January, that

the case was one of the most appalling and disgraceful to come before the courts. "There is a need to deter other like-minded louts from this sort of behaviour," he said. "In recent years we have seen an epidemic of shiftless young men driving cars and showing off just for kicks. This menace has got to stop." Sherwood, of Walsall, West Midlands, admitted manslaughter.

Joyrider jailed, page 3

## Clinton's plan for Somalia under fire

From Martin Fletcher  
 In Washington

**PRESIDENT** Clinton's Somalia policy sank deeper into controversy last night as he struggled to persuade a sceptical Congress that US forces must not only remain six more months but be doubled.

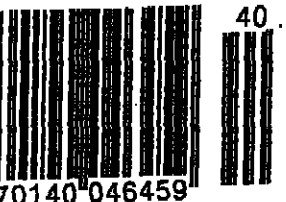
He said he planned to send 17,000 more troops, tanks and a fleet of armoured vehicles to protect the existing 5,000 strong US force, as well as 3,600 marines to be stationed offshore. He set March 31 for withdrawal. Opposition was fuelled by the deaths of two more American soldiers.

Administration sources suggested that Somali "entrepreneurs" were holding some or all of the six missing US servicemen and trying to sell them.

Aspin blamed, page 12  
 Leading article, page 19

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## C of E clergy defect to Rome

By Ruth Gledhill, Religion Correspondent

**ABOUT 35** clergy have resigned from the Church of England and been received individually into the Roman Catholic church, an Anglican vicar has disclosed.

Several hundred lay people have resigned, and about 250 clergy are expected to switch denominations when the first women are ordained priest in the Church of England next Easter.

The Rev Tony Pinchin, vicar of St John's, Highgate, Kent, who recently announced plans to seek entry into the Catholic church with 40 members of his parish, claims today that one Catholic bishop has acquired a reputation as "a

collector of Anglican clergy". The bishop is "offering a fairly rapid process into the seminary and a foreshortened course of training," he says.

Although a handful of married Anglican clergy have converted and become Catholic chaplains in this country, working for example in hospitals, this would be the first time the Catholic church in England has allowed a married priest to run a parish.

Fr Pinchin does not name the bishop, but he is understood to refer to Dr Alan Clark, the Catholic bishop of East Anglia, who wants to allow married former Anglican clergy to become Catholic

parish priests. At the other extreme are Catholic bishops who are insisting on two years of assimilation as a layman and up to five years of training for the Catholic priesthood. These include Bishop Patrick Kelly, of Salford.

Both sides have produced draft guidelines on the reception of Anglicans, which are to be discussed soon by the Catholic bishops of England and Wales.

Writing in October's *Catholic World Report*, Fr Pinchin says there is divergence over whether an Anglican clergyman can remain with his parishioners. Fr Pinchin Continued on page 2, col 4

## Short fails to press home his advantage

By Ian Murray

**GARRY Kasparov** scrambled a draw against Nigel Short in the fourteenth game of *The Times* World Chess Championship last night after the challenger had dominated play most of the time.

This was the fifth consecutive drawn game. Kasparov, now with 9½ points to 4½ by Short, needs only another 2½ points to retain his title.

Short, playing White, made his moves quickly and aggressively, avoiding the time pressure that has cost him dear in the past. However, just as he seemed to have built up an unassailable position, Kas-

parov's rugged defence foxed him and he agreed a draw on the 39th move.

Short, having now gone five matches without defeat, is gaining in confidence but seems to face a psychological barrier that stops him pressing home his advantage decisively when he builds up a winning position. Kasparov, who has been preoccupied with events in Moscow for the past week, has been playing below his usual standard, doing little or no preparation for the most recent games.

Report, page 11

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## Document ties Thatcher to sale of arms tools to Iraq

A defence ministry document suggests the former prime minister knew British exports would be used for making weapons

By MICHAEL DYNES, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

BARONESS Thatcher approved exports of computer-assisted machine tools to Iraq despite intelligence reports warning that they would be used to make shells and missiles, it was disclosed yesterday.

Lady Thatcher agreed not to revoke export licences granted in 1988 to Matrix Churchill, the Iraqi-owned machine tool manufacturer, to protect a vital intelligence source that was providing the government with details of Saddam Hussein's arms procurement programme, Lord Justice Scott's public hearing into the arms-to-Iraq affair was told.

A confidential defence ministry document, read out during yesterday's hearing, said that the former prime minister knew about the exports and intelligence reports warning that they would be used to make munitions. It is the first evidence linking Lady Thatcher directly to the affair.

The document was drafted for Baron Trefgarne, the former defence procurement minister, by Alan Barrett, a senior official in the ministry's export sales secretariat. It was read out during the cross-examination of Ian McDonald, head of the secretariat since 1986.

Mr McDonald said he could not explain Mr Barrett's reference to the prime minister. Mr McDonald told the enquiry that he had not known of Lady Thatcher's involvement in the decision.

He suggested that Mr Barrett, his subordinate, might have heard about the prime minister's involvement "informally".

In the document, Mr Barrett told Lord Trefgarne that Matrix Churchill had been granted export licences for 50 lathes worth £16.5 million when it was discovered that

they were to be used to manufacture munitions. He said "the prime minister agreed that in order to protect the intelligence source, the licences already granted should not be revoked".

Despite Lord Justice Scott's extensive trawl of Whitehall documents, no others have been found to verify Mr Barrett's claim that Lady Thatcher knew of the exports.

Additional Matrix Churchill export licence applications were delayed while the security services sought confirmation of intelligence reports, Mr Barrett said. "We were about to recommend releasing these applications but intelligence is now available to us — but have not yet seen — suggesting a more disturbing use for the lathes," the memorandum said.

Mr Barrett concluded it by saying that "this case needs to go back to the prime minister before we could recommend approving the current applications. Incidentally, we believe that Matrix Churchill is now run by Iraqis."

The memorandum was written for Lord Trefgarne in December 1988, before a meeting of Foreign Office, defence and trade and industry ministers in which they agreed to relax the 1985 arms-export guidelines restricting the sale of defence-related equipment without notifying parliament.

Paul Henderson, the former managing director of Matrix Churchill, who was cleared last year of illegally exporting defence-related equipment to Iraq, said it was disgraceful that the memorandum had not been handed to the defence at his Old Bailey trial. "That document clearly involves an approval from the prime minister," he said.

Thatcher's return, page 6



Father Tony Pinchin, who wants to join the Catholic church with 40 parishioners

## C of E clergy defect to Rome

Continued from page 1

expects to be separated from his. They will attend the local Catholic church and he will cease his ministry as a priest before deciding on his next step. He pleaded with the Catholic bishops to give a unified welcome.

The decision on whether married Anglican clergy can be ordained and serve as Catholic parish priests is understood to have been delegated by Rome, thus avoiding a lengthy process of referral to the Vatican. Other clergy who have discussed the "Roman option" include the Rev Michael Rear, vicar of Walsingham, home of the Marian shrines of Catholics and Anglicans. Fr Rear, who is married with three children, said: "I am going

to leave the Church of England early next year." He had seen the local Catholic bishop, but did not know what the future of his ministry would be. He said his Anglican bishop was also very understanding.

News of the defections came as the Anglican compromise intended to keep traditionalists within the church was threatened by an attack from the Movement for the Ordination of Women. The group is demanding that no man be ordained in future who does not believe an ordained woman can be a priest. This could undermine plans for an "act of Synod", to be debated at the General Synod next month, which provides for "episcopal visitors" to give pastoral care to opponents of women priests.



Dr Alan Clark: liberal line on married vicars

## Ford rejects assembly line to build to order

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

FORD is to abandon the traditional assembly line in favour of a revolutionary system that will make cars to customers' orders.

The company said yesterday that it would launch a pilot system in the spring in which almost all cars from its British assembly lines would

be destined for a customer who had ordered the colour and trim. The change will end the practice, started by Henry Ford, in which cars were built for stock and dealers were expected to sell them. The philosophy has been the driving force behind an industry that puts millions of cars into showrooms and car parks where they wait to be sold.

cars a day at the biggest plants in Britain, will be the first big company to make "bespoke" cars. Luxury car companies have long made models to order.

Orders will be sent by computer directly to the factory, where they will be fed to the assembly line. A car of any colour or trim will be made and sent to the customer. Dealers would make savings

by cutting the number of unsold cars they kept in stock.

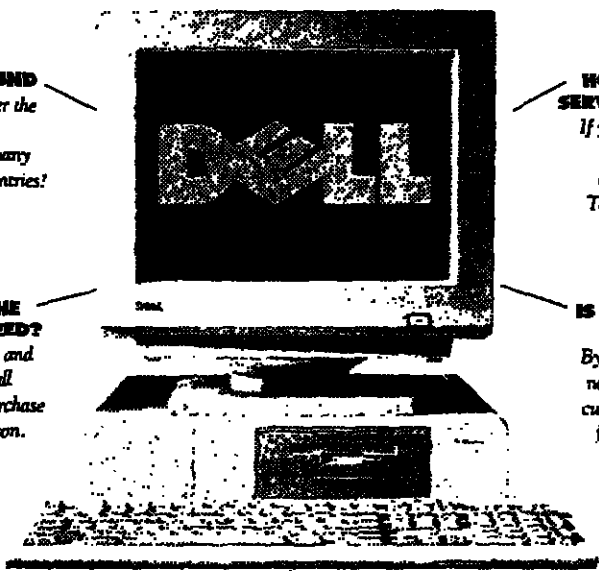
Ford has suffered losses totalling £1.6 billion over the past two years. Although there have been job losses and gains in productivity at the company's factories, the retail chain of nearly 1,000 dealers has come through the recession relatively unscathed.

Indian Rover, page 8

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## Flooding forces schools to close

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

HEAVY rain in Scotland and parts of the north of England caused widespread flooding and disruption yesterday to roads and rail services. Five and the Highlands were the areas worst affected.

Hundreds of children in the Highlands were sent home after two schools in Inverness were forced to close because of flooding. Half a dozen roads in the region were closed, with one man relying on his canoe to get around.

Homes in Inverness were damaged by flood water when a burn burst its banks. Householders near the river Ness laid sandbags in an effort to protect their homes.

The A9 between Perth and Inverness, the main route into the Highlands, was closed in places because of landslides, and the A96 between Aberdeen and Inverness was flooded in several places.

A young woman died in Glasgow when her car hit a van in torrential rain. A helicopter from RAF Lossiemouth took part in a hunt for an elderly man after fears that he had fallen into the river Don at Strathdon.

ScotRail had to close part of the route between Inverness and Aberdeen because of flooding between Forres and Elgin.

In Hexham, Northumberland, and parts of co. Durham there was flooding of up to 3ft and telephone lines were put out of action. Lightning left a 4ft hole in the roof of a house in New Kyo, co. Durham.

Forecast, page 22

## Reynolds supports Sinn Fein dialogue

THE Sinn Fein president Gerry Adams last night welcomed signals from the Dublin government that his talks with the SDLP leader John Hume could aid hopes for peace in Northern Ireland.

Albert Reynolds, the Irish prime minister, and the deputy premier Dick Spring indicated that the still-secret agreement between the two party leaders might help towards a settlement.

After being briefed by Mr Hume, Mr Reynolds said that the principles contained in his report on the dialogue could be established and worked upon. Later, in parliamentary answers, Mr Spring said that Mr Hume's work could play a



Hume: briefing to Irish leadership

meaningful part in the peace process.

Mr Adams travelled to Dublin from Belfast to observe the response of Irish leaders to the Hume briefing. He said: "I welcome today's government statement — particularly the commitment that Mr Reynolds and Mr Spring want to ensure that the progress made can make a very important contribution towards building a consensus for peace."

Mr Adams said it was clear that Dublin intended to take full account of the report and to decide how best to continue its efforts in discussions with the British government for the achievement of peace. He said that the joint report amounted to the only initiative that had "any hope of moving us forward".

## CONFERENCE SKETCH

## Stage-stuck stars play bashful duet

Matthew Parris

At Blackpool, to arrive is everything. Yesterday saw five keynote arrivals. Ted, Margaret, Norman, Michael and the Fly.

For Sir Edward Heath, like the Fly, it was no grand entrance. The great man slipped in early and sat down among the platform party. They were strung out along a fuzzy-felt fantasia of a platform in a thin grey line, just their heads visible.

apaches coming over the hill. Sir Edward's head was among them. Big Chief Stinking Bull. All awaited the Arrival, Sir Edward with horror. Suddenly, just as a floor speaker had called for married women to stay at home, she rushed in.

Those who have witnessed the progress of an emu over the Australian bush will recognise in Lady Thatcher's stage walk the same combination of a serene progress of the top half with a series of small, urgent steps down below.

Heath managed a hand-clap so slow, so intermittent and so limp that his hands seemed to move like the wings of a dying butterfly. Having sat down, she rose to acknowledge the continuing applause. Those who had also sat down did not rise with her. There was plainly a division in the hall.

Arrival No. 3 was to be a Bow Group meeting in a cinema where *The Fugitive* was advertised. With Gabrielle Clarke playing the Winter Gardens. Lucifer Lamont was playing the fringe.

There was no crash of thunder and only the faintest whiff of sulphur. The Dark One stalked down to the platform. As if by black magic the card which read "Bow Group" toppled over and fell on its face.

What could this mean?

And then there was Michael. Arrival No. 4. Like the Baroness, Mr Heseltine has now taken the art of the Arrival to the ultimate. He did not speak at all. He only arrived. He delayed his arrival on the conference platform until we thought

they would have to start without him. Where was he? Had he been taken ill?

Then in he strode. Playing the applause for all it was worth, he sat down until the ovation was fading, then leapt up again, waving his arms. There was another burst of cheering. Owners of stop-watches that had timed the Thatcher Arrival suggested by their eyebrows that it was a close-run thing.

But what of the Fly? Readers may recall my account of the day a fly got caught in Margaret Beckett's hair at Newbury. Yesterday at Blackpool it happened again, with the other Margaret. Camera men rushed to capture the moment as a substantial insect found itself trapped where a thousand YCs sigh to be. Was it the same fly, a groupie for lady politicians? Is it something about the scent of a woman in power? We may never know.

One other scene will stay forever in the minds of witnesses.

After one debate, with Sir Edward and the Baroness still on the platform and separated by some 20 yards, the rest of the platform party began to leave; a new party was about to arrive. "What", we thought, "if they were to be left alone together?" Incredibly, they virtually were.

As the platform emptied, each became aware of the continuing presence of the other. Ted turned to his right, Margaret to her left. Each engaged a departing colleague in conversation. But finally they were almost alone. Both stood. Heath staring at the slogan on the wall, Thatcher glaring into the wings. They were back to back — "dozy-doe", as barn-dancers will recognise. They simply would not look at each other.

What if we had all departed, too, locking the doors and leaving them alone in the Winter Gardens at opposite ends of the stage? Would they have ever spoken? We shall never know.

Conference, pages 6 and 7

## New councils may put £100 on bills

Council tax bills could rise by up to £100 to pay for reorganising local government. A leaked government memo published yesterday in the *Local Government Chronicle* shows that the government intends councils to pay the estimated £1 billion for new computer systems, fresh elections and paying off redundant staff. "Ministers' initial view is that these costs should be borne by local people who stand to gain from the benefits of reorganisation in the future," the memo says.

Letters, page 19

## Court jails escaper

Brixton jail-breaker Nesson Quinlivan was sentenced to four years' imprisonment by a Dublin court yesterday for having a gun when he was arrested last April. Quinlivan, 29, a welder from Limerick, was found guilty by the anti-terrorist Special Criminal Court of having a revolver and ammunition near Nenagh, co. Tipperary.

## BNP leaders fined

John Tyndall, the head of the British National Party, and Richard Edmonds, a full-time party official, have each been fined £100 by Kingston upon Thames Crown Court for displaying racist posters at a council hall in Merton, southwest London, used by ethnic minority groups. The offence refers to January last year. Bernard Levin, page 18

## Sex attacker gets life

A 31-year-old sex attacker who used his job as a window cleaner to seek out and abuse six elderly women was jailed for life at the Old Bailey yesterday. Michael Leddie, a married father of three, attacked women aged 78 to 88 in Southall, west London, after breaking into their homes. He admitted attempted rape and indecent assault.

## Miami tourist stabbed

A British tourist was stabbed by muggers in Miami yesterday as he took a 2am stroll on Fort Lauderdale beach. Danny Macleod, 26, from Portree on the Isle of Skye, beat off his two black attackers and ran to a nearby hotel for help. He left hospital after having 56 stitches for stab wounds to his arms and chest.

## Cyril Cusack dies

Cyril Cusack, the Irish actor, has died after a long illness. He was 82. Members of his family were with him when he died at his London home. In addition to his four daughters, Sinead, Sorcha, Niamh and Catherine, who all followed him onto the stage, he leaves a widow, second wife Mary, and two sons, Paul and Padraig.

Obituary, page 21

## Mirror memoirs pledge

The *Daily Mirror* promised last night that it would publish no further disclosures from Baroness Thatcher's memoirs. David Banks, the editor, made the undertaking following a gagging injunction. Mr Banks has published unauthorised details from her forthcoming book on three days this week.

حکومت الانتداب



# The Birmingham Six case: from controversial start to unresolved end

## Trial collapse reveals flaws in system

By LYN JENKINS

THE collapse of the trial of three former police officers accused of perjury completes the failure of the criminal justice system to decide what happened in the case of the Birmingham Six.

In March 1991, the Court of Appeal said that all six had been wrongly convicted and that Det Supt George Read and two other officers had lied about their notes of interviews or conspired to fabricate evidence.

Without a trial, the allegations will never be answered and the three will live with badly damaged reputations.

Had the trial gone ahead, the case could have mirrored that of the officers in the Guildford Four case, who were acquitted of conspiracy to pervert the course of justice. The implication was that the original trial was not flawed.

Defence counsel for the Birmingham Six officers claimed in legal argument this week that they did not intend to retry the six. However, they said they would bring up new evidence of scientific tests conducted since the appeal which suggested that some of the six could have handled explosives.

The defence would also have argued that since the Crown refused to state a view on the alleged confession of one of the six, it could be taken that it was what it appeared to be, so why should the police want to fabricate the truth?

With the suspension of the trial, these issues remain unresolved. In the time that has passed since the atrocity, the authorities have failed to convict either the bombers or those responsible for the miscarriage of justice.

The flaws in the legal process exposed by the 1991 appeal led to rigorous scrutiny of the criminal justice system with the appointment of a royal commission.

Despite the recommendations it made, the system is widely considered to have failed again. The six — Billy Power, Gerry Hunter, Hugh Callaghan, Paddy Hill, Richard McKelvey and John Walker — and the three police officers are left with tarnished reputations and have no further means under the criminal justice system of resolving the matter.

The six were charged with



George Read, retired detective superintendent, outside the Old Bailey yesterday after his trial and that of two other officers was cut short

murder three days after the bombings of the Mulberry Bush and the Tavern in the Town, in which 21 people were killed and 162 injured. In August 1975 at Lancaster Crown Court they were convicted after claiming they had been tortured into making confessions.

In December the following

forensic tests used in the case, the Home Office ordered the early retirement of the scientist involved, Dr Frank Skuse.

In January 1987, the home secretary referred the case back to the Court of Appeal and set up an enquiry by the Devon and Cornwall police. A year later the appeal was dismissed and allegations by

case and that of the Maguire Seven, who were jailed for possessing explosives, was set up.

In March 1990, David Waddington, the home secretary, announced a new limited police enquiry to be conducted by Devon and Cornwall police into new material.

In August, Mr Waddington referred the Birmingham Six case back to the Court of Appeal. The decision stemmed from new evidence suggesting that notes taken by police of interviews were tampered with.

The third appeal hearing ended in March with the six being freed after 16 years, and the then home secretary, Kenneth Baker, announcing a royal commission on the criminal justice system.

Six months after the appeal judges gave their reasons for the decision, four police officers appeared in court and three were committed to trial at the Old Bailey.

Trial collapses, page 1

**In the time that has passed since the atrocity, the authorities have failed to convict either the bombers or those responsible for the miscarriage of justice**

year, 14 prison officers were charged with assaulting them. All were later acquitted.

In March 1976, the Court of Appeal refused leave to challenge the convictions and the following year an attempt by the six to sue the police for assault failed.

When Granada Television's *World in Action* programme questioned the reliability of

two former police officers of violence towards the six were discredited. Leave to appeal to the Lords was denied a few months later.

In October 1989, the home secretary ordered the release of the Guildford Four, who had similarly alleged fabricated evidence, intimidation and assault by officers. A judicial enquiry to investigate their

## 'What is the public to think of our law?'

Continued from page 1  
that new evidence suggested the detectives had deceived the court when they said at the original trial that the notes of interviews were contemporaneous.

Outside the court Billy Power, one of the six, criticised the collapse of the trial. "It is amazing that the Director of Public Prosecutions can bring a prosecution in this case in such a way that it cannot be tried and they walk away."

Another of the six, Paddy Hill, said he was astonished that he had never been questioned about the case by police, including those from Devon and Cornwall who conducted the enquiry into the handling of the matter by the West Midlands force. "We have never been interviewed since 1974, but it no longer surprises me. The British

courts have not the honesty to even spell the word justice."

A statement by Mr Power and Mr Hill, together with Gerry Hunter and Hugh Callaghan, expressed sadness at the outcome. "We are now consulting with our lawyers with a view to instituting civil proceedings for malicious prosecution and wrongful imprisonment."

Lord Denning, former Master of the Rolls, said after the decision: "The appalling vista is that the Birmingham Six have been acquitted and the police have been acquitted. What is the public to think of our system of law?"

"It raises a big question mark about the whole case. It would have been most unfair to continue this case against the police officers. I have always supported the police. The judge was right to stop it."

## Lawyers surprised by judge's decision

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE judge's decision to halt the prosecution because of prejudicial publicity is highly unusual in a case being held so long after the alleged crime, a leading barrister said last night.

Jonathan Caplan QC said: "The doctrine of abuse of process is normally used to stop trials where there has been excessive delay and the defendant cannot have a fair trial because of the lapse of time, witnesses' memories have faded and papers may have gone astray."

He accepted that the trial of the police officers in the Birmingham Six case was unusual because it came after a much-publicised trial and a much-publicised appeal and when the laws of contempt had ceased to apply. It was reasonable to

hope, however, that a judge in such a case could direct the jury on the evidence.

Other lawyers expressed concern that the judge's decision, for whatever reasons, meant that nobody would be held accountable for what one called "a grave miscarriage of justice".

Robert Roscoe, a criminal law solicitor, said: "It must be of concern that 18 years after these men were convicted, still nobody is sure who did what, to whom and when — we don't know what went wrong."

Legally, the decision rules out any criminal prosecution. Lawyers said that did not affect the acquittals of the Birmingham Six.

One prosecution lawyer said: "It may

seem inconsistent to the public, but the fact that a prosecution cannot be mounted against the police does not mean that the Birmingham Six must have been guilty after all. It just means that for the reasons given by the judge, a trial could not be mounted."

The only other legal route open to the Birmingham Six, if they want to pursue who was responsible, is the civil courts. Lawyers for four of the men said last night that they were considering proceedings for malicious prosecution and wrongful imprisonment. "This time we will be conducting the prosecution," they said in a statement. "This time, all of the evidence in our case will be presented in open court."

## Joyrider, 17, sentenced to seven years for killing

A BOY, aged 17, who was on bail when he killed a 13-year-old schoolgirl in a speeding car which he had stolen, was sentenced to seven years' detention yesterday.

Passing sentence, Mr Justice Roulger said the case illustrated the "folly" of giving repeated bail to young men who "showed not the slightest inclination to abide by its conditions". He told Carl Sherwood, 17, at Stafford Crown Court, that the "epidemic and menace of shiftless young men showing off in cars for kicks has got to stop".

Sherwood admitted the manslaughter of Donna Cooper, 13, of Pelsall, West Midlands, as she crossed the road on her way home from school for lunch in January this year. He also admitted aggravated vehicle-taking and was sentenced to a total of seven years' detention.

Sherwood of Walsall, West Midlands, stood with his head bowed as the judge said that the way he drove the Ford Escort XR3i car which struck Donna was little short of murderous. With Sherwood in the dock was Nigel Burton, 26, also of Walsall, who admitted aggravated vehicle-taking and failing to stop after an accident. He was sentenced to a total of four-and-a-half years' imprisonment.

Also in the dock were Stuart Rollinson, 15; David Teale, 14; and Shaun Brookhouse, 13, all from Walsall, who admitted



Carl Sherwood, 17, admitted manslaughter in court

aggravated vehicle-taking. They were each made the subject of a two-year supervision order.

Earlier, when considering the sentence for one of the younger defendants, the judge appeared to suggest that he was restricted from imposing a stiffer sentence. He said: "Sentencing policy is almost entirely the province of the feeble-minded these days."

Button was sitting in the front passenger seat and the other three youngsters were sitting in the back of the car which had been taken by Sherwood and Burton the night before. At the time both were on bail in relation to other alleged offences.

Donna was carried along on the bonnet of the vehicle for almost 50 yards before she slid off into the gutter. She died soon afterwards in hospital.

Antonv Palmer OC, for the

prosecution, said that shortly before the accident the car had been spotted by police, who followed it at speeds approaching 70mph and saw it overtake other vehicles before hitting Donna.

Mr Palmer said one witness to the accident spoke of seeing the driver grinning. After the accident the car was abandoned and the five occupants ran off, but all were arrested within a few hours.

The court also heard that about a month before Donna was killed, Sherwood and Burton were allegedly involved in the taking of two cars, one of which was involved in a collision with a motorcycle at crossroads.

Both the motorcyclist and his pillion passenger sustained serious injuries, but the young men drove off without making any attempt to summon an ambulance.

## RAC man wrecked lover's car

By JOHN YOUNG

A ROMANCE between a stranded motorist and her RAC rescuer came to an abrupt end when he deliberately drove her £60,000 Jaguar XJS into a set of railings.

The stormy tale of "Mad Mac" Camilleri and Ashleigh Fogg was related to Horseferry Road magistrates, in central London, yesterday. Mr Camilleri, 31, who had frequently been commended for gallantry in his job, had begun an affair with Miss Fogg, 33, a beautician, after he was called to help when her car broke down. They planned to marry but six months later, after a series of arguments, she told him that she did not wish to see him any more.

David Archer, for the prosecution, said that on June 20 the couple argued in the car. Mr Camilleri started driving wildly, mounted a pavement, jumped a red light and said that he was going to put the car through a brick wall "with us in it". After letting Miss Fogg out, he crashed the car, causing about £9,000 of damage to it and the railings.

He was fined £150 and banned for three months for dangerous driving and was ordered to do community service for causing damage.

Donal McEvoy, for the defence, said that the couple were now living together again.

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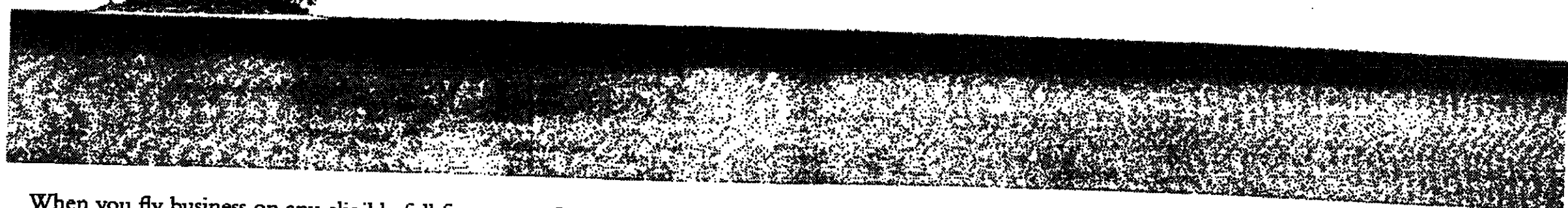
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Mr Lilley favoured instead a community of self governing



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## Ultrasound puts unborn babies at risk of low growth

■ An Australian study has added to evidence which indicates that a routine prenatal examination might not be safe

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

WOMEN who undergo frequent ultrasound examinations during pregnancy might be putting their unborn babies at risk, researchers have found.

Results of a study of women who had five or more ultrasound examinations during pregnancy show they were more than twice as likely to have babies with restricted growth as those who had just one ultrasound.

The finding raises doubts about the routine use of ultrasound in pregnancy. Ultrasound examinations have long been regarded as harmless and have become a routine part of antenatal care. They are often used for social reasons — to introduce prospective parents to their new baby — as well as to check for abnormalities.

The results of the study of 2,800 women in Perth, Australia, published in *The Lancet*, came as a surprise to the researchers, who had set out to see whether frequent ultrasound would improve the health of babies by leading to the early detection of slow growth. They found that frequent ultrasound examinations between the 18th and 38th week of pregnancy made no difference to the outcome of pregnancy, but increased the proportion of unborn babies with restricted growth by one third.

Foetuses with restricted growth have a higher risk of dying in the womb and of experiencing difficulties at birth. Last month a Norwegian study found a link between ultrasound and left-handedness, suggesting a possible effect on the developing central nervous system. In July, an analysis of four trials of 16,000 pregnancies published in the *British Medical*

*Journal* concluded that ultrasound had no effect on parents' chances of having a healthy baby.

Ultrasound is used more frequently in the United States because of worries about its safety and its cost. Doris Kure, president of the Foundation for Maternal and Child Health in New York, said: "I'm always horrified how casually ultrasound is used in Britain."

There is much greater concern here because we don't know the long-term effects on human development. An awful lot of women have said 'No thank you'."

Because ultrasound does not use radiation, as X-rays do it has been thought safe to use in the very young and in foetuses whose developing tissues are highly vulnerable. The technique is cheap to use, rapid and versatile, and is routinely recommended in most European countries. However, no controlled studies of its safety in humans have been carried out.

The authors of the Australian study, Professor John Nyman and colleagues of the King Edward Memorial Hospital, Perth, remain cautious about their findings but say they are "biologically plausible". Studies in monkeys have shown a significant reduction in birthweight following frequent pre-natal ultrasound.

In a commentary on the findings, Professor Marc Koke of Leiden University Hospital, Holland, says in *The Lancet* that the results bring a cautionary note to the widespread enthusiasm for ultrasound. "The message here is that pre-natal ultrasound by itself can no longer be assumed to be entirely harmless."

## Arm implant 'pill' available on NHS

By OUR HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

A NEW contraceptive which is implanted in the arm and provides women with five years' cover against pregnancies is to be launched next week in Britain.

Norplant, made up of six small capsules, is inserted under the skin of the inner upper arm under a local anaesthetic. It releases the progestogen hormone, levonorgestrel, into the bloodstream and is as effective as the pill. It will be available on NHS prescription, through family planning clinics and from GPs.

A spokesman for the Family Planning Association said: "We are very pleased to see the implant in this country because it will widen the choice for women and provide very effective contraception."

Norplant is being used by women in 29 countries including Finland, Denmark and

Sweden. It was approved in America in December 1990, when more than 500,000 women are using it.

However, there are fears that the method could be used to control the fertility of teenage mothers. In America, there have been allegations that it is being targeted at poor young mothers from ethnic minorities in some states.

Most women still ovulate when using the method and it is completely reversible. If a woman decides she wants to have a child, she will return to her usual level of fertility within a few days, say Roussel Laboratories, the contraceptive's manufacturer.

Sometimes a woman's period may occur and these may become more or less frequent. However, these changes often settle down after six months.

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Scarlett Flynn, 8, the three millionth member of Football in the Community, and the former England international Tony Currie at Arsenal's ground yesterday, celebrating a £600,000 three-year sponsorship of the scheme by Pizza Hut

## Lawyers told to take on more ethnic staff

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

SOLICITORS' firms will be expected to set targets for recruiting from ethnic minorities under measures agreed yesterday.

The profession's governing body, the Law Society, agreed a rule which forbids discrimination for reasons of race, gender, disability or sexual orientation. It also requires firms to have equal opportunities policies on how to avoid discrimination.

The council approved a policy on targets for employing ethnic minorities, which would vary according to the size of solicitors' firms. Big City law firms will be expected to recruit at least 10 per cent of their trainees and 5 per cent of fee-earners from the ethnic minorities by 1995. Smaller firms of six to ten partners would have to recruit one ethnic minority fee-earner.

Rodger Pannone, the society's president, said that he was pleased the measures were passed as the first item of the agenda at his first council meeting in the office. "I attach special importance to our profession being in the forefront of efforts to eliminate discrimination, and I hope that once these proposals are imple-

mented, they will lead to a fairer and better profession, open to all," he said.

The society's strategy committee says that the measures are aimed at alerting solicitors to "the gravity with which the Law Society considers the need to eliminate discrimination... Discrimination is particularly unacceptable in a profession dedicated to law and justice. For the council to make a practice rule on the subject would be the clearest indication of the society's commitment and of the need for solicitors to take a lead."

Makboul Javadi, a solicitor and chairman of the Society of Black Lawyers, welcomed the Law Society's decision as a first step. "However, we would have preferred much more rigorous and stringent measures, since those adopted allow far too much room for firms to avoid taking any action."

Firms would be able to opt out of measures such as targets, he said. "The quality of the debate in the council also does not inspire one as to the likely impact of the proposals."

Letters, page 19

## Service is suffering at hotels

By ROBIN YOUNG

MANY hotels and restaurants have reduced charges and staff during the recession to such an extent that standards are sometimes stretched to unacceptable limits, according to the Egon Ronay guide, published today.

Andrew Ellet, the guide's managing editor, said yesterday that instances included leading hotels leaving guests to carry their own luggage and to find their own way to their rooms. The guide's inspectors, he said, had noticed an increasing tendency not to provide fresh towels every day, and in many hotels there might be only one waiter. In one hotel still in the guide, Mr Ellet said, he was obliged to use a toothbrush to drink champagne.

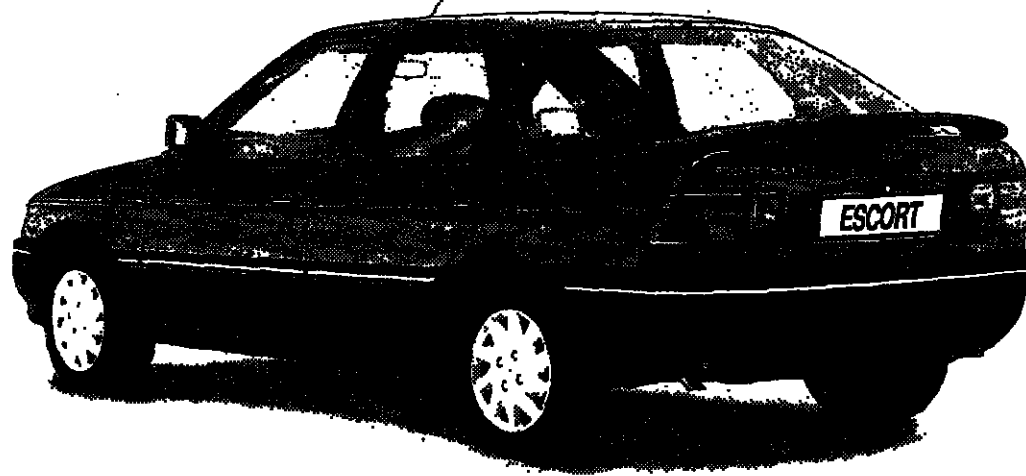
"The price war going on benefits consumers, but only the strongest hotels and restaurants have survived," Mr Ellet said. Britain's second largest group of hotel operators are now administrative receivers.

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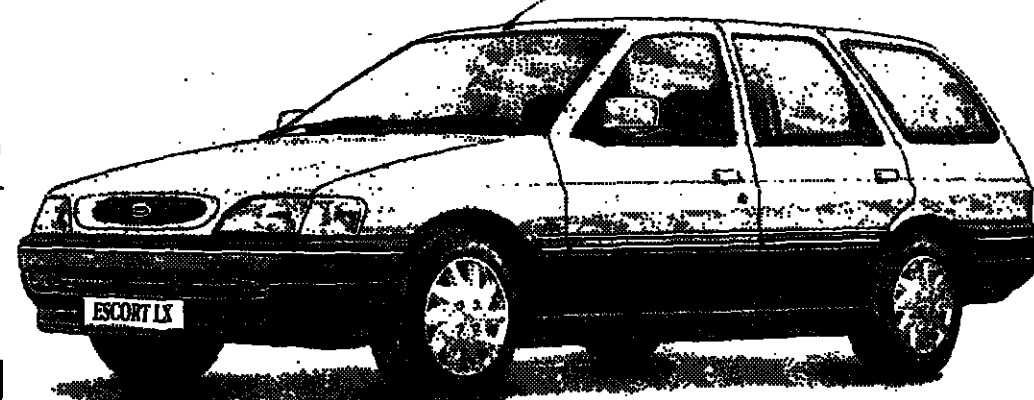
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## Prime minister's rival faces an uphill struggle against grassroots hostility



Tebbit received rapturous applause

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY

IF KENNETH Clarke was unaware of the right-wing hostility he has to overcome to mount a challenge for the Conservative party leadership, he was a good deal clearer last night. His first conference speech as Chancellor was made to look a comfortable experience compared with his appearance in front of a hostile audience of Conservatives who gathered in the formidable setting of the baronial hall at Blackpool's Winter Gardens.

Mr Clarke faced a duel with his long-time adversary Lord Tebbit over the future of Conservatism, an issue which is currently pulling apart the left and right wings of the party.

The two senior Tories made headlines at the last Conservative

conference when they became embroiled in a verbal battle at a reception given by Lord Archer.

Last night the two locked horns again over wide-ranging issues such as Britain's role in Europe, privatisation of public services and the future of the benefits system.

Mr Clarke was left in no doubt that he faced an uphill task to convert his boisterous grassroots audience, who rose in rapturous applause for Lord Tebbit but who gave a more polite but guarded reception to the Chancellor.

Amid the pageantry of the heraldic hall, Mr Clarke set to his task with customary gusto, telling his audience that he would not change his pro European views in spite of

vociferous calls for Britain to reduce its influence in Europe.

"I remain convinced that we have to push forward within Europe and to press home the advantage that we have achieved through our membership so far," he said.

He was still on shaky ground when he attempted to air his views on the need to maintain some basic state services. To hisses from his excited audience, Mr Clarke said: "I do not believe in the minimalist state." There were roars for the state, he said, while insisting that he supported the breadth of Baroness Thatcher's privatisation programme.

His insistence that the police and health services should be reformed

but remain under government control again met a surge of opposition from his audience. Mr Clarke looked back proudly at the way he had, in his own word, bulldozed through the health reforms, claiming that the changes could never have come about through quiet negotiation. It was now for Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, to follow through the reforms by seeing how the system evolved.

In the heated atmosphere of the packed hall, Mr Clarke quickly warmed to his task of attempting to win over right-wing doubters by spelling out his broad political outlook. His claim that he was in favour of "free market economics joined with enlightened social reform" seemed to touch his audience who applauded this comment, although one listener murmured:

"With that sort of vagueness he could be our leader."

Mr Clarke then turned to easier political issues for his Conservative audience, including his rejection of the "totally ridiculous notion" of proportional representation as advocated by the Liberal Democrats. He also managed to win over his audience with the type of appeal for unity that Conservatives have come to expect this week from each and every minister who addresses a group of more than 20. "We have to keep together with that broad coalition across the party which is the basis of its strength."

Mr Clarke had managed to pull round sections of his audience by reminding them of the 1980s when the party had "enjoyed the most successful years of any party in history."



Clarke: his welcome was more guarded

## Clarke sticks grimly to his guns on VAT and income tax

By SHEILA GUNN  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

KENNETH Clarke yesterday firmly defended the government's decision to put VAT on home heating bills, but reassured critics that many millions of households would receive compensation.

In a notably downbeat speech, the Chancellor pleased the conference by promising to rein back public spending. But he refused to give in to demands from the party faithful to rule out tax increases in his November Budget if they were necessary to cut the public deficit. "The Conservative party is the party of sound money or we are nothing," he said.

Adopting a defiant stance on the VAT proposal, he argued that claims about the impact were exaggerated because, even with the tax, gas prices would be at the same level in real terms as five years ago. Speaking after the debate, Mr Clarke left open the option

CONSERVATIVES IN BLACKPOOL



of bringing forward the date for paying the new tax. Under Norman Lamont's last Budget, VAT on domestic fuel would be introduced next April at 8 per cent, rising to the full 17.5 per cent in 1995.

Mr Clarke told the conference that he still believed the decision to impose the tax, which would raise nearly £3 billion in a full year, was the right one at this stage in the economic recovery.

Two-thirds of the revenue from VAT on fuel would come from households bringing in £12,000 a year or more, he

said. Gas, coal and electricity prices had been coming down, partly as a result of privatisation.

Extra help for the poorest people would arrive before the first fuel bills were delivered next April. "That help will go to many millions of households. And no sensible person should condemn the tax before they have even seen our package of help for those least able to pay."

In a difficult spending year, with decisions to be taken in November, extra help with heating will be one of our top priorities. He condemned Labour and Liberal Democrat policy on VAT as "the whiff of hypocrisy in the theatre of the absurd."

Mr Clarke warned the party that it must show it is capable of taking tough decisions because he simply could not accept that a government should be borrowing £1 for every £6 that it spends. "It will be tough, but a failure of will at this crucial moment would be disastrous, not just for our party but for our country," he said.

If the election promises on health care, higher education, pensions and law and order were delivered, other spending programmes would have to be cut back hard. Some of those savings would be painful. Public workers must accept that they would not receive a pay rise every year unless they had earned it and the taxpayer could afford it. The war on social security scroungers must be stepped up. "There must be no more palatial government offices and no more prisons which look like hotels."

The Chancellor insisted that Conservatives were tax cutters by instinct, with a record unmatched by Labour or the Liberal Democrats. "As Margaret Thatcher discovered in her courageous Budget of 1981, when the first priority is to balance the books, tight control over public spending is not always enough," he said.

"The key question for me to decide, not now but in my November Budget, is whether we have done enough."

No Conservative Chancellor raised taxation unless it was absolutely vital for the good of the country, he said. "And make no mistake, the tax increases Norman Lamont announced last March were absolutely vital."

City reaction, page 23

### Today's agenda

Debate on deregulation and the organisation of the Conservative party. Speech by the prime minister.



A delegate with dual loyalties applauds Baroness Thatcher's arrival yesterday

## The claws are out for Major's main leadership challenger

By ANDREW PIERCE  
AND NICHOLAS WOOD

BARONESS Thatcher last night sought to puncture Kenneth Clarke's leadership ambitions as she left the Tory party conference after a flying visit overshadowed by the drama of her leaked memoirs.

At a private lunch with a dozen close friends at Blackpool's Imperial Hotel, she was dismissive of the Chancellor's keynote speech in the economic debate. Lady Thatcher, who was on the platform for the debate, told her guests that it was a lacklustre performance from the man widely seen as the prime minister's main rival, and had strengthened John Major's position.

One of her friends said she was relieved that Mr Clarke's speech had fallen "a bit flat", and one insider went even further: "It was a weak speech and she was delighted. What

she thought about it is almost unprintable. Scathing is not too strong."

But, after her protestations of support for Mr Major had been undermined by the leak of alleged disparaging remarks about him in her memoirs, *The Downing Street Years*, few of Lady Thatcher's close associates were prepared to deny that she was also trying to buy time for Michael Portillo, the Treasury chief secretary and the likely right-wing champion in a leadership contest.

After an action-packed 18 hours in Blackpool in which she faced a media scrum even bigger than during her days in power, Lady Thatcher was embroiled in renewed controversy over her opposition to tax increases in the November Budget.

At the official dinner in her honour on Wednesday night, Lady Thatcher had a "spat" over taxes with Fiona Fowler, the wife of Sir Norman Fowler, the party chairman and host to the gathering.

Another anxious moment came when Lady Thatcher and her entourage swept into the hotel's Palm Court restaurant. Michael Heseltine was already seated, hosting a lunch for his constituency officials in the right-hand side of the restaurant.

But political differences were put to one side as Lady Thatcher broke away from her party to greet the man who brought her down and who is now recovering from a heart attack.

One MP was overheard to say: "It is a pity it took a heart attack for that to happen."

Lady Thatcher started her roast beef lunch with crab claws, but it was Mr Clarke rather than Mr Major who felt the pinch.

## General looks on as colonels fight for supremacy

John Major has been in command, but not in control. So far this week he has appeared like a general remote from the battle, as colonels, while formally claiming their loyalty, have feuded over future strategy.

Right-wing ministers have taken advantage of the time over the leadership to assert their views. For most of the week they have made the left wing bruised and isolated as well as angered by Mr Lilley's strongly nationalist and anti-EC speech on Wednesday.

Much of the debate has, as usual, been in code. A former communist regies, the key phrases have been about the past. The right has represented the 1980s as "a time to be emulated, while the left has sought to shift the party's focus, echoing Mr Mor's memorable indiscretion about "the golden age that never was."

But, yesterday, Norman Lamont proclaimed the 1980s were "a golden decade", while Peter Lilley and Michael Portillo have looked back to the Thatcher era. Mr Lilley spoke yesterday of adopting an American approach to the free market and a European one to welfare and public services. The hard-core Thatcherites never talk like this.

The end of the Maastricht battle has been taken by the Euro-sceptics as an opportunity to press their anti-Bussels, anti-integration case. Sympathetic remarks by Mr Major in his article in *The Economist* have worried the pro-Europeans. Ian Taylor, one of their leaders, has argued that the pro-EC MPs supported the Maastricht bill to safeguard Britain's place in the Community, not to see the party approach the next stage as if "we were conducting a rear-guard action".

Mr Major this afternoon should reveal some of his own thinking. The general needs to give a lead to the troops if the colonels are to be kept quiet.

PETER RIDDELL

## Reforms attacked

MOTHERS

PLANS to scrap the automatic right of single mothers to permanent council housing came under fierce criticism yesterday (Jill Herman writes).

Sir George Young, the housing minister, announced a review of homelessness laws that will prevent pregnant teenagers from jumping housing queues. Lone parents could find themselves in bed and breakfast, temporary private rented housing or hostels for single mothers.

Sir George told the conference: "How do we explain to the young couple who want to

wait for a home before they start a family... that they cannot be housed ahead of the unmarried teenager expecting her first, probably unplanned, child?"

Sue Slijman, director of the National Organisation of One Parent Families, said that the proposals would lead to greater insecurity and instability for single mothers. "Keeping people in mother-and-baby hostels will do little to help them become responsible, mature adults."

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سكوتش الاصل



# Foreign secretary sets limits to privatisation as factions clash on Blackpool fringe

## Tory left fights back against rise of right

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY  
POLITICAL STAFF

HURD

DOUGLAS Hurd moved last night to head off right-wing domination of the Tory party by saying that Thatcherism should not be a "permanent cultural revolution".

In a speech aimed at blocking right-wing demands to privatise public services, the foreign secretary warned Tories that they had to protect "the pillars of our society". Mr Hurd said it would be "wrong that our assault on what the state sector does badly means we have a vendetta against the state in the areas of national life where its role remains central."

"We do not want to break the mould of every public service afresh in every parliament. We must show that we are not driven by ideology to question every function of the state."

In a clear attempt to swing the party away from further wide-ranging privatisation programmes, Mr Hurd said:

"I do not find in the 1990s many people impressed by the argument that the principle of a public service is wrong."

Conservative priorities had changed since Margaret Thatcher came to power in 1979. Much of the 1980s had been spent cutting back on the overblown responsibilities of the state. "We need to build on what we achieved in the 1980s. That does not mean looking at the problems of the 1990s with the language and ideas of the 1980s."

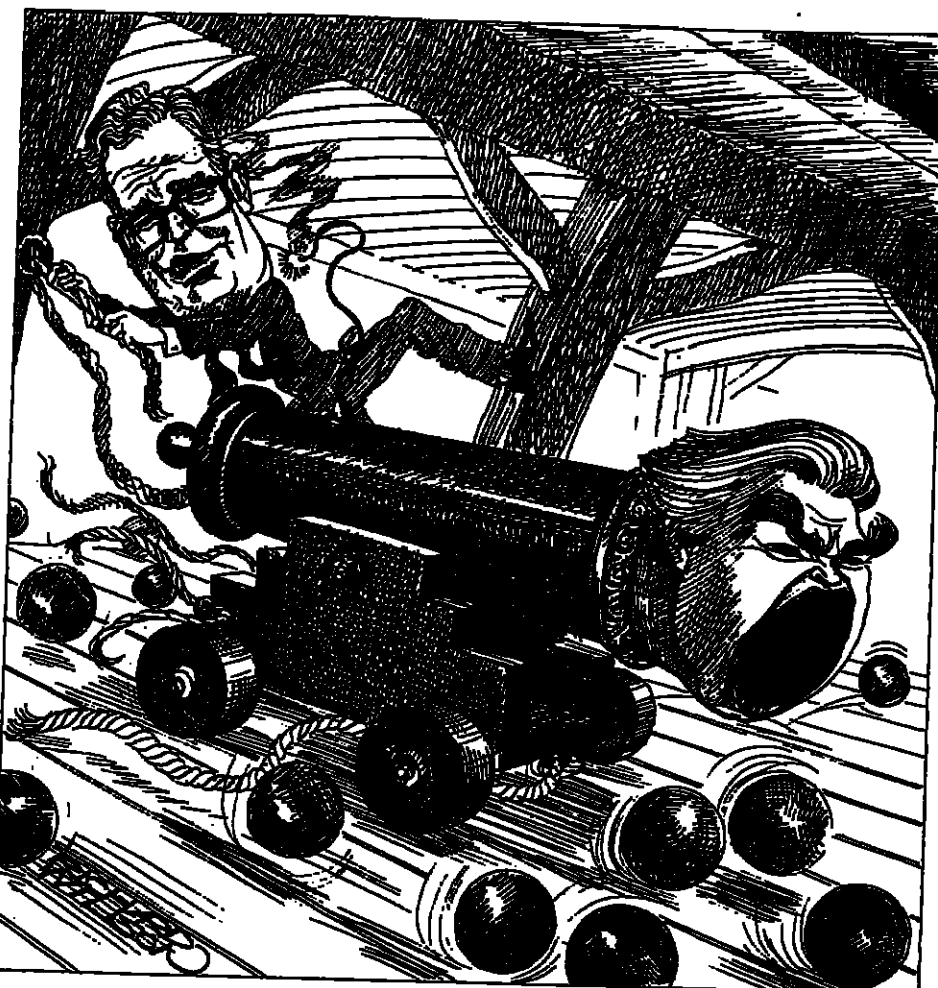
Mr Hurd's speech to the centre-left Tory Reform Group came during a conference week in which the Conservative right-wing has been buoyed by its assertion of strength. Tough conference speeches by Michael Howard, the home secretary, and Peter Lilley, the social security secretary, have raised fears among some left-wingers that they could be overrun by the right. In a rallying call to the left of

the party, Mr Hurd said the Tories needed to treat reform of public service with respect. In an echo of Lady Thatcher's reference to the health service, Mr Hurd added: "We need to show that the public services are safest, and most effective, in our hands."

Accepting that the government had had "misfortunes and indeed mistakes", he warned of dogmatic attacks on state control.

In particular, Mr Hurd reminded his audience of the risk of alienating those who formed the foundation of Conservative support. Teachers, civil servants, health workers and those in the armed services would "rightly distrust any whiff of dogma" in the way the government treated their professions.

Governments were now more vulnerable to "the general political malaise", and the Conservatives needed to look at ways of overcoming the negative protest vote picked up by the Liberal Democrats.



## Recipe for recovery from ex-Chancellor

BY PHILIP WEBSTER  
POLITICAL EDITOR

LAMONT

NORMAN Lamont yesterday called for a £5 billion cut in next year's spending totals as he bluntly told Kenneth Clarke to avoid putting up taxes in his November Budget.

The former Chancellor firmly allied himself with the Thatcherite right when he referred to the 1980s as a golden decade in an apparent sideswipe at John Major for his private reference to the Thatcher years as a "golden era that never was".

Mr Lamont suggested that, as the government strove to reduce the £50 billion budget deficit, reductions would be required in sensitive areas such as health and education. And he added: "Further substantial tax increases would retard recovery, slow growth, abort job creation, penalise success and stifle endeavour."

Mr Lamont's call for a reduction in next year's £254 billion target, which has already been rejected by Mr Clarke and the prime minister, irritated ministers last night.

"It ain't as easy as that," the Chancellor said, dismissing Mr Lamont's observations. He said that he had worked on a cabinet committee with Mr Lamont last year which had increased spending on health and education. Also, the Conservative manifesto committed the government to spending more on the NHS.

Mr Lamont, speaking to the right-of-centre Bow Group, called for an independent Bank of England, the reform of capital gains tax and privatisation of the Royal Mail. He

said any further action to reduce the deficit must come from spending cuts rather than additional tax increases. "Persistent deficits cannot be eliminated solely by tax increases. This is particularly true when you have a recovery which is still fragile. Many families have high mortgages, and further tax increases could have a disproportionate impact on what they spend and on the recovery."

"If we aim to reduce borrowing more quickly, spending cuts are better than raising taxes. A billion pounds off spending is worth more than a billion pounds on taxes."

Mr Lamont, who introduced VAT on household fuel bills in his last Budget earlier this year, said it was precisely because he raised taxes by so much that he believed any further contribution should come from cuts in public spending.

"This year's spending remit is tight, but only to those accustomed to large increases in spending year after year," he said. However, the party, the government and the country must understand that these years were over. "But just sticking to previously announced spending increases, as we are doing this year, only means that public spending won't make the deficit any worse," he said.

And he added that such a position might be credible for a government whose priority was to protect public spending at the cost of raising taxes. "It will not do for a tax-cutting party."

## Thatcher's warrior stakes his claim

BY NICHOLAS WOOD  
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

## Return to politics of conviction demanded

BY JILL SHERMAN  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL Portillo last night staked out his claim for the leadership of the right of the Conservative party with a clarion call for a return to traditional family values and an assault on the "nanny state".

In an echo of Norman Lamont's jibe against a government "in office but not in power", Mr Portillo also warned John Major against sacrificing political principles in the pursuit of short-term popularity.

In a strong defence of ideological government, Mr Portillo declared: "If a government believes that a policy is right for the country, then it must pursue it even if it leads to unpopularity... It does not take a genius to work out that VAT on fuel and power will be unpopular. But to do only that which is popular is not to govern."

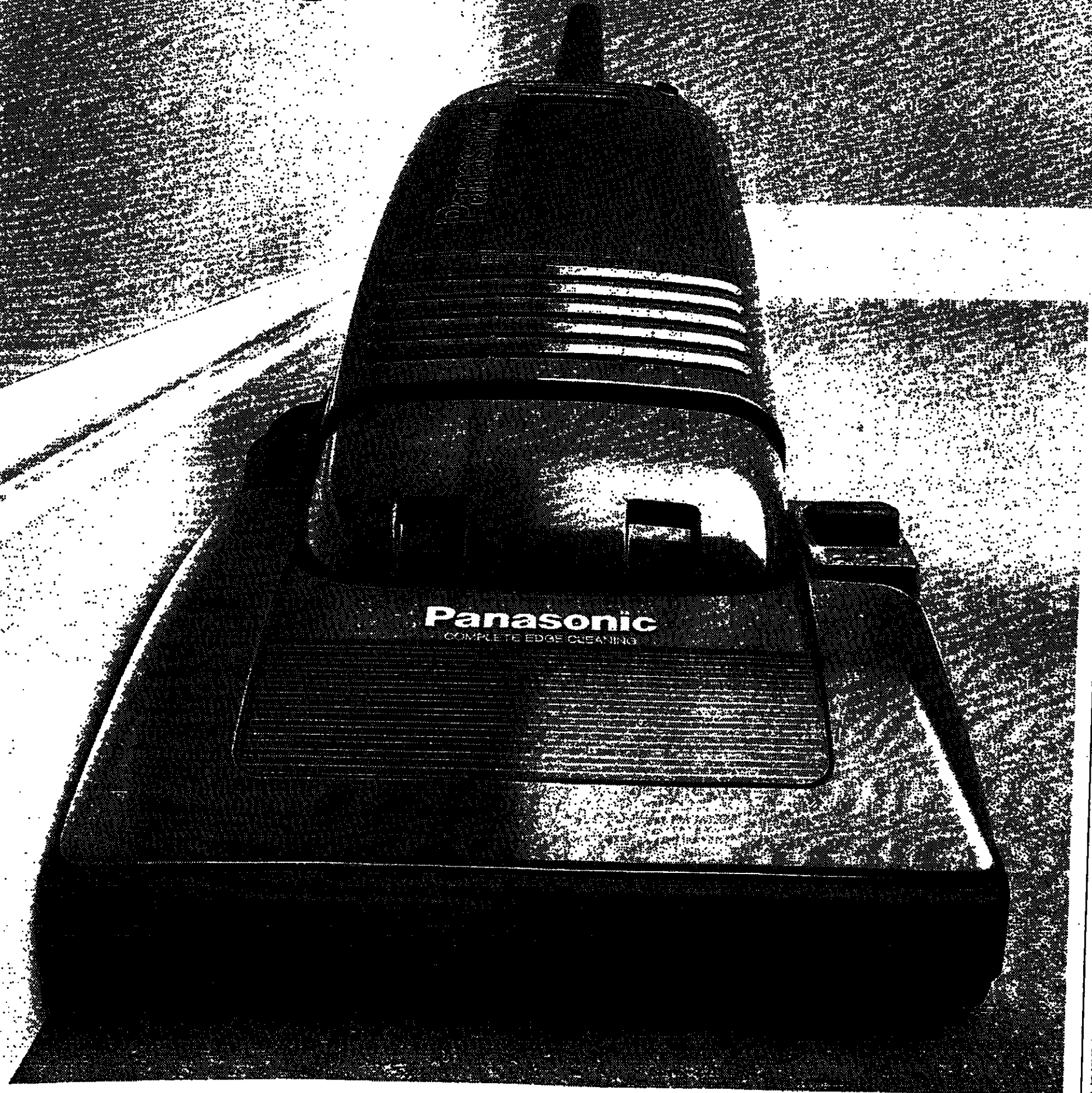
Towards the end of a week in which leading Thatcherites have sensed that the political

PETER Lilley yesterday followed his assault on Brussels with a ringing call for a return to "conviction politics" and a demand that the Maastricht treaty be radically toned down.

Proudly parading both his Euro-sceptic and Thatcherite credentials at a fringe meeting of the Conservative Way Forward, the social security secretary harked back to the 1980s and called for a reassertion of Tory values. In an indirect swipe at the prime minister, he warned that the Tories risked losing the next election unless they had more confidence in their ideals. "Political convictions are necessary in politics. Only those who have convictions can carry conviction," he said. "If Mrs Thatcher taught us anything it was the importance of conviction politics."

Mr Lilley, who became a new Tory darling with his vicious attack on "foreigners" on Wednesday, said the tide of ideas were now flowing pow-

"OK, sucker, up against the wall."



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erfully in the direction of the right. "No British government has ever been defeated unless and until the tide had turned against it," he continued. "We need to reaffirm our values with conviction as John Major did when he mounted his soap box. If we follow this path with vigour, we will make the nineties another Tory decade."

Turning his attention to Europe, he called for the super state to be "rolled back" in a revision of the Maastricht treaty in 1996. Britain should be given back powers it had lost and should not be subsumed in a European super state.

Happily referring to the "bastard" label which John Major conferred on him and two cabinet Euro-sceptics, he made no attempt to disguise his anti-European colours.

The Maastricht treaty was a point beyond which Britain could not go, he said. "We in this country will only settle for a return from Brussels to Britain of powers to govern ourselves."

Mr Lilley favoured instead a community of self governing

the tide has turned in their direction, the Treasury chief secretary gave the clearest statement so far of his Thatcherite beliefs. He called for an end to sociological claptrap, a savage political correctness as a "sinister abuse of language" and urged a reduction in the size and reach of the state to promote individual freedom.

Mr Portillo, 40, is being increasingly seen by right-wing Tories, especially the younger MPs, as the man to carry forward Baroness Thatcher's brand of radical free-market Conservatism. He was the only minister favoured by her presence on the conference fringe and many Tories believe Lady Thatcher's public backing for John Major is partly fuelled by her desire to keep out Kenneth Clarke and to leave the door open for a Portillo government.

His supporters say that this son of a Spanish Civil War refugee has the "iron in the soul", the presence and the ideological fervour to carry forward the Thatcherite banner. But even his friends admit that his lack of ministerial experience and his relatively low public profile make him only an outside bet if Mr Major were to fall within the next year.

Speaking at the Centre for Policy Studies fringe meeting in Blackpool, Mr Portillo said that the Conservatives "must stand up for the decent majority of ordinary Britons and lead them out of the modern malaise". It was time to return



## Former spy defies jail warning by publishing book

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

A FORMER MI6 officer published his autobiography yesterday despite an official warning that he could go to jail for two years for breaching his pledge of secrecy.

Desmond Bristow, 76, who was head of MI6's Iberian section in Madrid after the second world war and retired from the service in 1954, said that he was given the warning by the Treasury Solicitor. During discussions with the defence ministry over his manuscript for *A Game of Moles. The Deceptions of an MI6 Officer*, he and his publisher were ordered to leave out names of former intelligence officers and "to drop the word agent".

He said yesterday: "I couldn't believe it. Are we really supposed to hide the fact that the British secret intelligence service employs agents?"

He and his son Bill, who co-

authored the book, decided to publish and be damned, although they changed the names of about ten former intelligence officers. Mr Bristow said: "The Treasury Solicitor said if I went ahead and published I could go to jail for two years and all the proceeds from the book could be confiscated. But that was the last we heard."

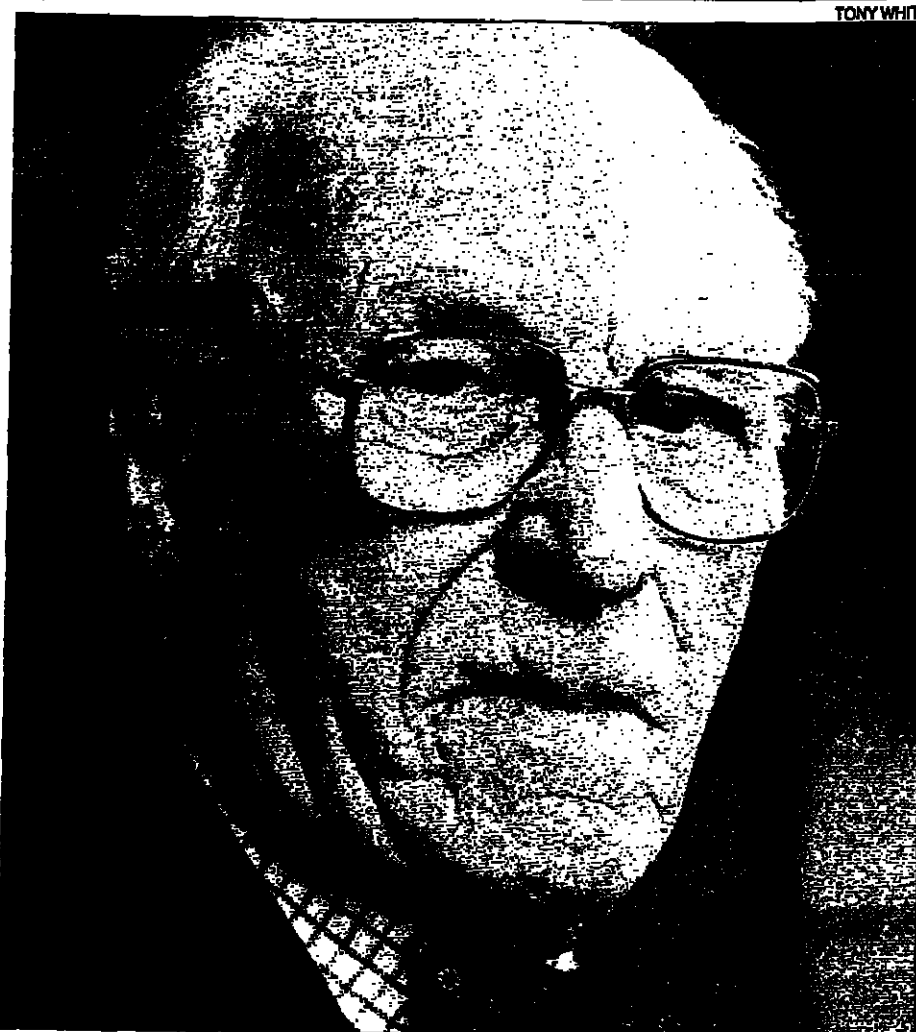
Since the publication of *Spycatcher*, by the former MI5 officer Peter Wright, the government has tightened up the Official Secrets Act, under which former officers can be prosecuted for speaking or writing about their operations. However, the government is also opening up the security and intelligence services. The names of the agency chiefs have been confirmed officially and MI5 has published a brochure.

Mr Bristow, who lives in Spain, joined MI6 in 1941. He

worked initially in the Iberian section of the counter-intelligence department, based in St Albans. One of his colleagues was Kim Philby, the KGB double agent who later became a personal friend. Mr Bristow said he never suspected that Philby was working for the Russians.

While serving in Algiers in 1943 under the codename Tapwater, running about 30 double agents with a French intelligence officer, he employed a safebreaker to steal cypher codes from a safe in the Spanish consulate.

In his memoirs he admits that he told his French colleague, Captain Doudot, all about Ultra, the British codebreaking operation which was the greatest secret of the war. "I had decided that if we were going to work together efficiently and freely we could afford no secrets from one another," he said.



Desmond Bristow was told that he faced two years' jail for breaching secrecy

## Passage to India for ageing Montego

By KEVIN EASON  
MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

ROVER'S Montego car, now close to the end of its working life in Britain, is to be revived as a mass-produced saloon in India.

The car company is negotiating a deal which will allow kits of components for the Montego to be shipped to India where they will be assembled. The Montego will then join some familiar stablemates in Indian showrooms, cars that were once among the most popular on Britain's streets but which are now made only abroad.

The descendant of the ill-fated British Leyland group, Rover has been remarkably adept at keeping alive outdated cars by packing them off to remote parts of the world. Assembly lines for old Morris cars — a famous badge long dead in the UK — were sent to India where they are thriving again. The Morris Oxford, made at Cowley, Oxford, between 1948 and 1959, is not only made in Calcutta as the Hindustan Ambassador, but is now being exported back to the UK.

Morris's most famous car, the Minor, is still made in Sri Lanka while glass fibre versions of the Mini — still in production in the UK after 34 years — are manufactured in Venezuela. The Mini Moke, the open-topped car in which Patrick McGeehan travelled in the television series *The Prisoner*, is now made in Portugal.

Earlier this year, Rover tied up a deal to sell the production lines, including 1,300 press tools, for the old Morris Ital to China, where 5,000 will be made a year. The Maestro, still made at Cowley, is destined for Bulgaria where authorities want to convert former military installations into a plant to make 46,000 cars a year.

Rover refuses to say that the Montego's life in this country is over, only that the end is near. The company is unlikely to have a large financial stake in the deal with the Sipani automobile company, but will keep Montego assembly lines running to supply components direct to Sipani, which will assemble cars coupled with 2-litre diesel engines from Perkins, the engine manufacturer from Peterborough, Cambridgeshire.

Rover said yesterday: "We are talking to Sipani about a joint venture company and they are very interested in the diesel-powered Montego. If all goes well, we could have the scheme up and running sometime over the next year."

## Girl guilty of drugging teacher

A schoolgirl who spiked a sweet with LSD and gave it to a teacher was put on probation for a year yesterday.

Bristol Family and Youth Court was told that Martin Lock, 46, regularly caddged sweets from pupils. He was given the spiked fruit pastille on the last day of term. He began hallucinating and clinging to the walls, before collapsing and being taken to hospital.

The girl, aged 16, said outside the court: "He was chosen because everyone knew he would eat the sweet and he was known as a wally. I felt terrible when I realised what had happened." Two boys charged with the same offences were ordered at an earlier hearing to do community service.

## Kilroy threat

Brian Davies, 64, a former naval officer, was jailed for a year by Southwark Crown Court for threatening to destroy the BBC because he was offended by the chat-show host Robert Kilroy-Silk.

## Bunker plan

Bob Franks, 57, of Crawley, West Sussex, has submitted a planning application to build a house underground after Mid-Sussex District Council rejected four previous applications to build above ground.

## Mother killed

Barbara Stretch, 51, of Petersfield, Hampshire, died and her son, Robert Moran, 31, was in a coma after a car crash while they were on their way to Euro Disney near Paris.

## Donkey cruelty

John Gardner, 49, who kept donkeys to give rides on Blackpool beach, was jailed for three years after admitting 24 offences of causing suffering to animals.

## Pupils hurt

Sixty-one pupils were taken to hospital after two school buses crashed near Caernarvon, Gwynedd. Most were suffering from shock and whiplash injuries.

## Union election

Roger Bolton, 46, has been elected general secretary of the broadcasting union Bectu. He will take over next month from Tony Hearn, who is retiring.

## Iron Age find

The remains of an Iron Age settlement from the first century BC have been found on the site of a new reservoir at East Lavant, West Sussex.

## APPLIANCE

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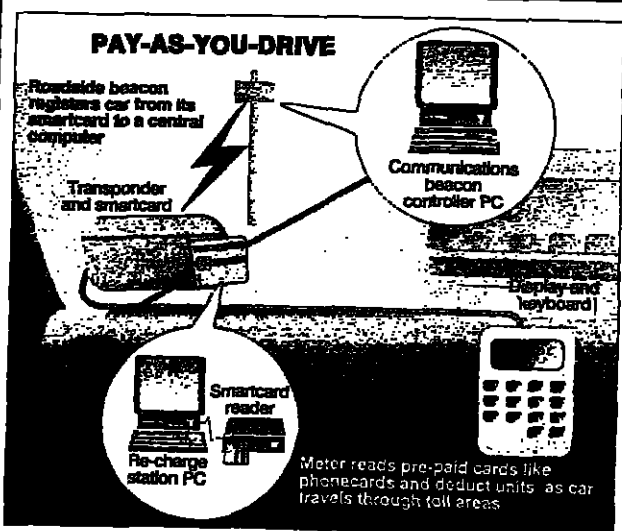
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## City's hi-tech traffic trial is world first

By TIM JONES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

CAMBRIDGE became the first city in the world yesterday to demonstrate the technology that will be used to charge motorists for the traffic jams they cause.

Government ministers and foreign politicians plan to visit the city during the four-week trial to help them in considering the early introduction of congestion-charging in London and other major cities.

Planners hope that before 2000 all roads leading into Cambridge will be ringed by electronic beacons that will signal to a miniature dashboard computer activated by a "smartcard".

The computer will tell the motorist how many prepaid units he has left on his card and warn him that he is in a controlled zone. As soon as the motorist runs into a traffic jam and has to stop or slow right down the computer is activated and the charging begins.

Michael Sharpe, director of the county council transportation department, said: "It's

one quarter of the day when the roads are at their most congested. If people drive in at the busiest time they must be prepared to pay."

He said the money raised by congestion-charging could be used to finance local road schemes and improve public transport. "More than 90,000 cars a day come into Cambridge and that is forecast to rise to 135,000 within 15 years so clearly the problem is not going to go away. You can only go so far with bus lanes, co-ordinated traffic lights and other traffic-calming measures."

The dashboard computer, using software developed by the transport research department of Newcastle University, can be fed with a variety of information. It will be able to tell the motorist which roads are clogged, the availability of space at car parks and whether to avoid the city altogether.

Mr Sharpe said that the need for primary legislation meant that introduction of a permanent congestion charge

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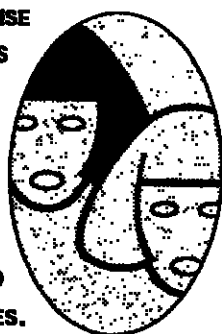




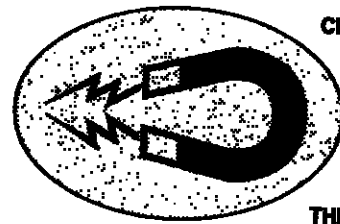


# What the TV ads don't tell you about shampoos.

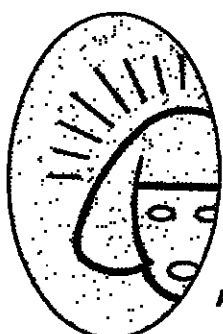
A RANGE OF SHAMPOOS MAY UTILISE AS MANY AS FORTY INGREDIENTS (FOR INSTANCE JOJOBA, COCONUT, CAMOMILE, EGG, ROSEMARY, ORANGE, BEER, LEMON JUICE, CHAMPAGNE) IN DIFFERENT COMBINATIONS IN ORDER TO OFFER PRODUCTS WHICH ARE IDEALLY SUITED TO DIFFERENT HAIR TYPES.



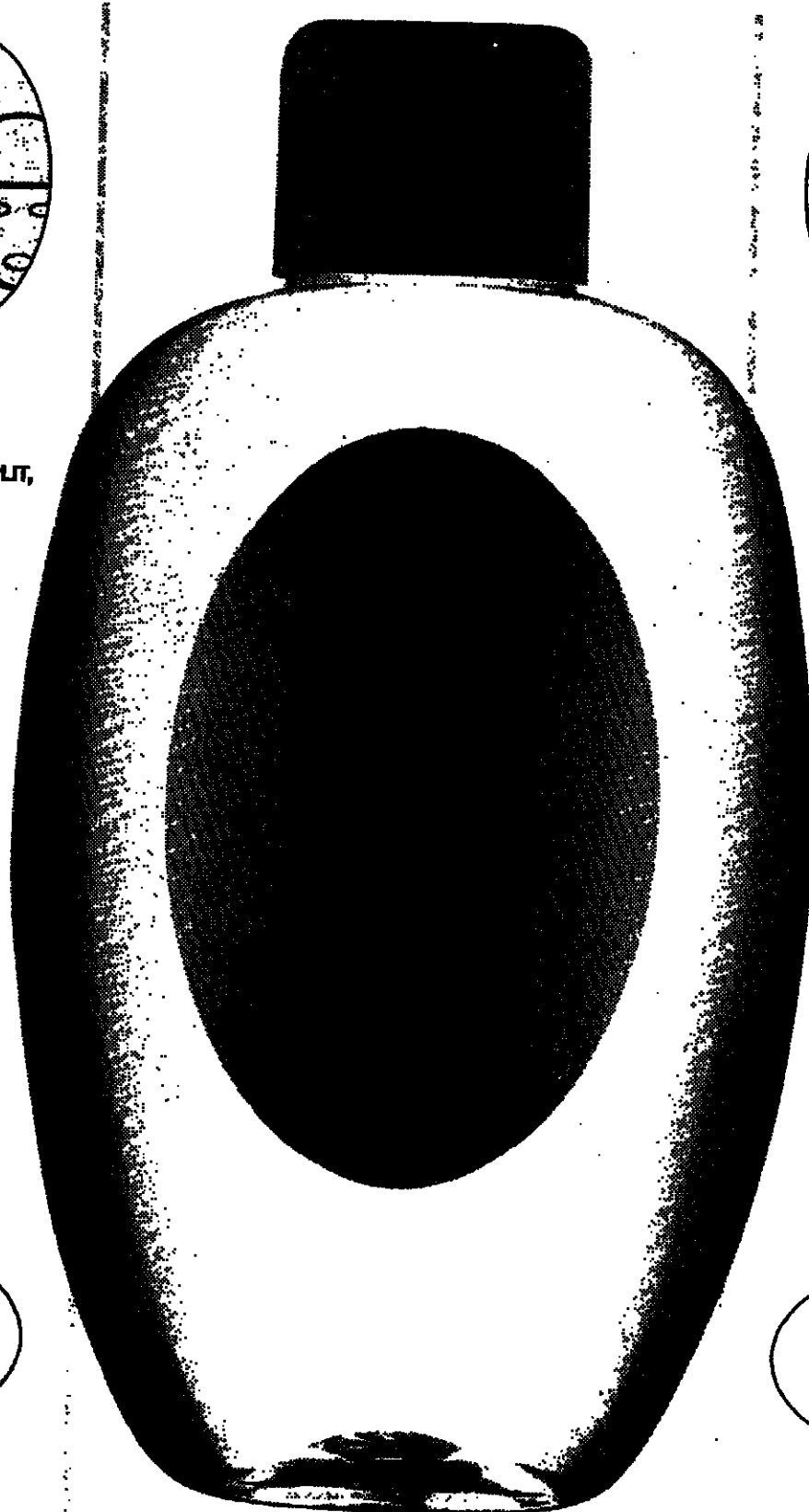
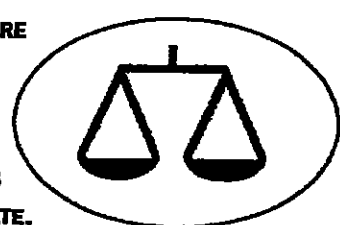
IF YOUR HAIRS ARE PRONE TO SPLIT, CERTAIN SHAMPOOS CAN HELP REPAIR THEM, USING AN ELECTROSTATIC PRINCIPLE TO DRAW THE BROKEN ENDS TOGETHER, AS IF BY A MAGNET.



IF YOU SUFFER FROM A DRY SCALP, THERE ARE SHAMPOOS WHICH CONTROL DANDRUFF WITHOUT STRIPPING YOUR HAIR OF ITS MOISTURE AND SHINE.



THE BEST SHAMPOOS ARE THOSE WHICH ARE PH BALANCED. THEY ARE ON THE MILD SIDE AND LEAVE YOUR HAIR IN ITS NATURAL ACIDIC STATE.



SOME SHAMPOOS REMOVE THE RESIDUES WHICH MAY BE LEFT BEHIND BY EVEN HIGH QUALITY HAIR PRODUCTS, AND WHICH MAY BUILD UP, LEAVING HAIR DULL AND OVERLOADED.

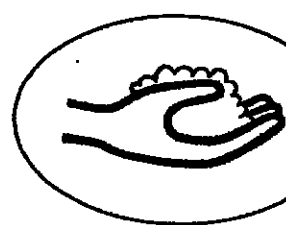
VERY DRY, FRAGILE OR DAMAGED HAIR MAY BENEFIT FROM AN ENRICHED SHAMPOO WITH A BUILT-IN CONDITIONER, GOOD FOR ANYONE WHO WASHES THEIR HAIR MORE THAN TWICE A WEEK.



MANY SHAMPOO MANUFACTURERS CHOOSE NOT TO USE ANIMAL TESTING, INSTEAD PREFERING TO TEST THEIR PRODUCTS FOR IRRITANCY ON HUMAN VOLUNTEERS.



SHAMPOOS WITH ADDITIONAL OILS AND EMOLLIENTS CAN GIVE A GENTLER LATHER WITH LESS RISK OF STRIPPING AWAY NATURAL OILS.



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Some contain nourishing oils, others reduce oiliness.

There are shampoos for dry, greasy and normal hair, for permed or damaged hair, for hair about to go on holiday, hair which is settling back into city life.

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Unlike shampoos, the commercials tend to contain the same three ingredients: the pretty girl, the hair-tossing shot and the promise to leave your hair perfect.

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The answer is ridiculously simple: they haven't time.

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they could have large spaces in which to tell their story.

They could reach their intended audience more accurately and more often.

They could have high quality colour to show hair and product off to the best advantage. All of this for a fraction of the cost of going on TV.

Why don't they? Perhaps because they believe that, deep down, you value a glossy image more than useful information.

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\*Write to: Response, 34 Southwark Bridge Road London SE1 9EU. This advertisement was placed by the Newspaper Publishers Association.

هكذا من الاعمال



# Quick-fire Short fails to take advantage of his early dominance

## Kasparov scrambles to a draw against confident challenger

By Raymond Keene and Ian Murray

THE 14th game of The Times World Chess Championship was drawn last night, after Nigel Short had dominated most of the play.

Garry Kasparov, the world champion, scrambled to a draw on the 39th move. It is the fifth consecutive drawn game and Kasparov, on 9½ points to 4½ for Short, only needs to score another 2½ points to retain his title.

Having drawn the previous four games — the longest sequence he had gone so far without losing to Kasparov — Short played like a man in a hurry at the start of the game. He seemed to exude confidence from the outset that, with the advantage of playing White, he could win his first game. This optimism was shared by the bookmakers who, for the first time in the match, had given him an equal chance of winning.

Kasparov has admitted that he has been surprised by the British challenger's fighting play, and Short seems determined to learn as much as possible during the remaining games against the world champion so that he can stand a better chance of taking the title in the future.

The speed with which Short started out yesterday showed that he had learnt at least one important lesson from the play so far. Having lost the first game when he ran out of time, and failing to win on at least two occasions because he was forced to think so fast at the end that he missed a winning move, he showed that he was now acutely aware of the importance of the clock.

His quick sustained play through the opening was markedly different to many of the earlier games, during which he often found himself in time trouble because he spent too long thinking about early moves.

The quick play also suited his aggressive style yesterday, which meant he was prepared to exchange both his knights against a bishop and a knight



THE TIMES WORLD CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

early in the game. Having built up an early time advantage of more than half an hour, Short was then able to enjoy the luxury of thinking for 45 minutes without falling behind on the clock before making his 20th move.

Chess games at the highest level are rather like the law, they rely heavily on precedent. In this case Short and Kasparov followed a game between the grandmasters Larry Christiansen and Luben Spassov, played in Indonesia in 1982, until Kasparov's 22nd move 22... Rf6. This varied from the previous theory where the Black player had tried 22... f5.

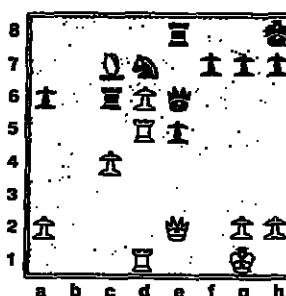
The opening was, once again, a Sicilian, Black's sharpest and most aggressive defence. The late opening revolved around a mighty passed pawn on Short's side, stuck like a fishbone in Kasparov's throat on the advanced square d6. Kasparov in turn established a powerful blockade of the pawn with queen, rooks and knight. On the 26th move Short launched a pawn attack on the queen's flank with the aim of supporting its advanced colleague on the d6-outpost.

Short developed a powerful initiative and was moving smoothly and confidently. This was Short's best chance since game ten to score the elusive win which has so far escaped him in this championship. Certainly, Kasparov had to react radically to avoid being steamrollered by Short's giant army of pawns.

White: Nigel Short  
Black: Garry Kasparov  
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5  
2 Nf3 d6  
3 d4 Nd7  
4 Nc3 a6  
5 Bc4 e6  
6 Bb3 b5  
7 Bc2 Nc6

8 Bc3 Bc7  
9 f4 0-0  
10 0-0 Nf4  
11 Bc4 b5  
12 e5 dxe5  
13 Nxe5 Nf7  
14 Nc4 Bb7  
15 Nd6 Bc6  
16 e6 Qg5  
17 Qe2 e5  
18 Bc3 Qg6  
19 Rad1 Kf8  
20 Bc5 Bxc5  
21 Rxc5 Qd5  
22 Rfd1 Rf6  
23 Bc5 Rf8  
24 b3 Rxc8  
25 Bc7 Rf8  
26 c4 Rxc4  
27 bxc4 b5



Winning Move, page 44



Kasparov takes a different perspective on yesterday's game as Short ponders a move

## Fruit's the pick of the bargain bunch

By Lucy Berrington

THE fruit counters are flourishing, with unusual additions and good prices. This is a vintage year for pears: expect to pay 25-50p a lb for Conference and 40-65p a lb for Comice. Also recommended are bananas at 40-65p a lb, and pomegranates and kiwifruit at 15-20p each. Apple connoisseurs should visit Safeway, which has varieties rarely sold in the UK.

It is also a good month for leeks at 40-65p a lb. Other excellent buys include broccoli from 55p a lb and Brussels sprouts at 25-35p a lb. The best salad products include cucumbers at 45-60p each, celery 30-60p a head and beetroot at 20-45p for a 12oz bunch.

British beef remains good value. Good-quality fish is readily available, with prices falling slightly. Hake and whiting are the best-value white fish. Cod and haddock prices are stable, but choose fillets at £3-£3.50 a lb to ensure quality. Large herrings are in short supply, but the smaller Loch Fyne variety are inexpensive and abundant. Huss, this week's best buy, costs about £2.65 a lb.

Asda: Unsmoked bacon, £1.35 for family pack; Irish sausage, £1.19 per pack; long-life yoghurt, 87p for 6x125g; oranges, 75p for 7; Emerald sugar melon, 69p each.  
Co-op: Fresh whole chicken, 69p a lb; frozen kippered mackerel fillets, 49p for 170g;

yoghurt, 89p for 500g; muesli, £1.19 per kg; Castlemaine XXXXX, £2.89 for 4x500ml.  
Gateway: lamb leg, £1.68 a lb; cheese singles, £1.09 for pack of 20; toffee cheesecake, £1.49 for 410g; white grapes, 99p a lb; Tement's Extra, £2.75 for 4x440ml.  
Harrods: Rainbow trout, £1.80 a lb; large chestnuts, £4 a lb; Greek figs, £5 a lb; Vacherin Mont D'Or cheese, £13.95 each.  
Iceland: minced steak, £2.99 for 2lb 12oz; Turkey-Dinosaurus, £1.29 for 500g; size 3 eggs, £1.79 for 24; chilled pâté, 85p for 170g; vanilla ice-cream, £2.49 for 4lt.  
Safeway: fresh whole chicken, 62p a lb; crumbed ham, 66p per ¼ lb; white grapefruit, 19p each; Cox apples, 75p per kg; Hofmeister Lager, £3.99s for 6x500ml.  
Sainsbury: Pork leg, 79p a lb; rump steak, £2.98 a lb; frozen peeled prawns, £2.98 for 400g; mature cheddar, £1.99 a lb; King Edward potatoes, 69p for 2.5kg.  
Tesco: fresh whole duck, 99p a lb; sirloin steak, £3.68 a lb; fresh crab, £2.99 each; Jamaica ginger cakes, 99p for two; chocolate digestives, 59p for 400g.  
Waitrose: Scotch beef groundsteak, £1.99 a lb; lamb shoulder chops, £1.99 a lb; whiting cutlets, £1.99 a lb; haddock fillets, £1.99 a lb; assorted crisps, £1.69 for 18 packs; avocados, 39p each.

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Aquarius 1000 Spin Autowasher 11lb wash load. Super rinse, no heat economy rinse. Extra features: • Auto pre-wash • Variable spin. Model 977PWA.	<b>CURRYS PRICE</b> <b>£439.99</b>
Aquarius 1000 Spin Washer Dryer 10lb wash load, super rinse button, no heat economy button, built-in crease care. Extra features: • Rinse hold. Model 972WA.	<b>CURRYS PRICE</b> <b>£499.99</b>
11lb Tumble Dryer 120 minute timer and lockable door. Easy clean fluff filter. Extra features: • 2 heat settings. Model 937AW.	<b>CURRYS PRICE</b> <b>£169.99</b>
Aquarius 11lb Tumble Dryer Reduced heat loss gives improved drying efficiency and saves energy. 2 heat settings. Reverse tumble. Extra features: • On Indicator. Model 937SP.	<b>CURRYS PRICE</b> <b>£229.99</b>

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5.6 cu.ft. Larder Fridge Auto defrost, tall bottle storage. Extra features: • Fresh meat compartment • Can rack • Extra door shelving. Model 8130W.	<b>CURRYS PRICE</b> <b>£229.99</b>
8.2 cu.ft. Fridge Freezer 6.0 cu.ft. fridge, 2.2 cu.ft. freezer with auto defrost in fridge, 4-star freezer rating. Extra features: • Fresh meat compartment • Can rack • Extra door shelving. Model 8329W.	<b>CURRYS PRICE</b> <b>£299.99</b>
10.2 cu.ft. Fridge Freezer 8.0 cu.ft. fridge, 4.2 cu.ft. freezer with auto defrost in fridge, 4-star freezer rating. Extra features: • Fresh meat compartment • Can rack • Extra door shelving. Model 8556A.	<b>CURRYS PRICE</b> <b>£419.99</b>
9.6 cu.ft. Frost Free Fridge Freezer Never defrost again with this superb 6.0 cu.ft. fridge and 3.6 cu.ft. freezer. 4-star freezer rating, fast-freeze section. Economy switch in freezer. Extra features: • Fresh meat compartment • Can rack • Extra door shelving. Model 8571P.	<b>CURRYS PRICE</b> <b>£499.99</b>

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## THE TIMES checkmate

### £1,000 to be won every day

CHECKMATE is the new instant cash game that anyone can play — you don't need to be a chess expert. All you have to do is check the positions on your Checkmate Card against those printed on the daily Checkmate Chess Board, marking the pieces off on the Checkmate Table as the positions on your card match those of the Checkmate Board. It's so simple to take part — and perhaps win £1,000.

**HOW TO PLAY**

On your Checkmate Card there are 20 letter-number combinations — g6, h2, a5 and so on. These represent the positions on a standard chess board. Compare the positions on your Checkmate Card against those on Today's Chess Board (right). If a combination on your card matches a chess piece on the Checkmate Board mark off that piece in the Checkmate Table.

If you are able to mark off all the pieces in the Checkmate Table in any one day, in any order, you win or share in the daily prize of £1,000 cash.

**TODAY'S CHECKMATE TABLE**

g6	h2	a5	b7	c4	d8	e1	f3	i4	j6
k7	l2	m5	n8	o1	p3	q4	r6	s7	t9
u2	v5	w8	x1	y3	z4	aa6	ab7	ac9	ad2
ae5	af8	ag1	ah3	ai4	aj6	ak7	al9	am2	an5
ao8	ap1	aq3	ar4	as6	at7	au9	av2	aw5	ax8
ay1	az3	ba4	bb6	bc7	bd9	be2	bf5	bg8	bh1
bi3	bj6	bk7	bl9	bm2	bn5	bo8	bp1	bq3	br4
bs6	bt7	bu9	bv2	bw5	bx8	by1	bz3	ca4	cb6
cc7	cd9	ce2	cf5	cg8	ch1	ci3	cj6	ck7	cl9
cm2	cn5	co8	cp1	cq3	cr4	cs6	ct7	cu9	cv2
cw5	cx8	cy1	cz3	da4	db6	dc7	dd9	de2	df5
dg8	dh1	di3	dj6	dk7	dl9	dm2	dn5	do8	dp1
dq3	dr4	ds6	dt7	du9	dv2	dw5	dx8	dy1	dz3
ea4	eb6	ec7	ed9	ee2	ef5	eg8	eh1	ei3	ej6
ek7	el9	em2	en5	eo8	ep1	eq3	er4	es6	et7
eu9	ev2	ew5	ex8	ey1	ez3	fa4	fb6	fc7	fd9
fe2	ff5	fg8	fh1	fi3	fj6	fk7	fl9	fm2	fn5
fo8	fp1	fq3	fr4	fs6	ft7	fu9	fv2	fw5	fx8
fy1	fz3	ga4	gb6	gc7	gd9	ge2	gf5	gh8	gh1
gi3	gj6	gk7	gl9	gm2	gn5	go8	gp1	gq3	gr4
gs6	gt7	gu9	gv2	gw5	gx8	gy1	gz3	ha4	hb6
hc7	hd9	he2	hf5	hg8	hh1	hi3	hj6	hk7	hl9
hm2	hn5	ho8	hp1	hq3	hr4	hs6	ht7	hu9	hv2
hw5	hx8	hy1	hz3	ia4	ib6	ic7	id9	ie2	if5
ig8	ih1	ii3	ij6	ik7	il9	im2	in5	io8	ip1
iq3	ir4	is6	it7	iu9	iv2	iw5	ix8	iy1	iz3
ja4	jb6	jc7	jd9	je2	jf5	jh8	jh1	ji3	jj6
jk7	jl9	jm2	jn5	jo8	jp1	jq3	jr4	js6	jt7
ju9	kv2	kx5	ky8	kz1	la4	lb6	lc7	ld9	le2
lf5	lg8	lh1	li3	lj6	lk7	ll9	lm2	ln5	lo8
lp1	lq3	lr4	ls6	lt7	lu9	lv2	lw5	lx8	ly1
lz3	ma4	mb6	mc7	md9	me2	mf5	mg8	mh1	mi3
mj6	mk7	ml9	mn2	mo5	mp8	mq1	mr4	ms6	mt7
mu9	mv2	mw5	mx8	my1	mz3	na4	nb6	nc7	nd9
ne2	nf5	ng8	nh1	ni3	nj6	nk7	nl9	nm2	no5
np8	mq1	mr4	ms6	mt7	mu9	mv2	mw5	mx8	my1
mz3	oa4	ob6	oc7	od9	oe2	of5	og8	oh1	oi3
oj6	ok7	ol9	om2	on5	oo8	op1	oq3	or4	os6
ot7	ou9	ov2	ow5	ox8	oy1	oz3	pa4	pb6	pc7
pd9	pe2	pf5	pg8	ph1	pi3	pj6	pk7	pl9	pm2
pn5	po8	pp1	pq3	pr4	ps6	pt7	pu9	pv2	pw5
px8	py1	pz3	qa4	qb6	qc7	qd9	qe2	qf5	qg8
qh1	qi3	qj6	qk7	ql9	qm2	qn5	qo8	qp1	qq3
qr4	qs6	qt7	qu9	qv2	qw5	qx8	qy1	qz3	ra4
rb6	rc7	rd9	re2	rf5	rg8	rh1	ri3	rj6	rk7
rl9	rm2	rn5	ro8	rp1	rq3	rr4	rs6	rt7	ru9
rv2	rw5	rx8	ry1	rz3	sa4	sb6	sc7	sd9	se2
sf5	sg8	sh1	si3	sj6	sk7	sl9	sm2	sn5	so8
sp1	sq3	sr4	ss6	st7	su9	sv2	sw5	sx8	sy1
sz3	ta4	tb6	tc7	td9	te2	tf5	tg8	th1	ti3
tj6	tk7	tl9	tm2	tn5	to8	tp1	tq3	tr4	ts6
tt7	tu9	tv2	tw5	tx8	ty1	tz3	ua4	ub6	uc7
ud9	ue2	uf5	ug8	uh1	ui3	uj6	uk7	ul9	um2
un5	uo8	up1	uq3	ur4	us6	ut7	uu9	uv2	uw5
ux8	uy1	uz3	va4	vb6	vc7	vd9	ve2	vf5	vg8
vh1	vi3	vj6	vk7	vl9	vm2	vn5	vo8	vp1	vq3
vr4	vs6	vt7	vu9	vv2	vw5	vx8	vy1	vz3	wa4
wb6	wc7	wd9	we2	wf5	wg8	wh1	wi3	wj6	wk7
wl9	wm2	wn5	wo8	wp1	wq3	wr4	ws6	wt7	wu9
wv2	wx5	wy8	wz1	xa4	xb6	xc7	xd9	xe2	xf5
xg8	xh1	xi3	xj6	xk7	xl9	xm2	xn5	xo8	xp1
xq3	xr4	xs6	xt7	xu9	xv2	xw5	xy8	xz1	ya4
yb6	yc7	yd9	ye2	yf5	yg8	yh1	yi3	yj6	yk7
yl9	ym2	yn5	yo8	yp1	yq3	yr4	ys6	yt7	yu9
yv2	yw5	yx8	yy1	yz3	za4	zb6	zc7	zd9	ze2
zf5	zg8	zh1	zi3	zj6	zk7	zl9	zm2	zn5	zo8
zp1	zq3	zr4	zs6	zt7	zu9	zv2	zw5	zx8	zy1
zz3	aa4	ab6	ac7	ad9	ae2	af5	ag8	ah1	ai3
aj6	ak7	al9	am2	an5	ao8	ap1	aq3	ar4	as6
at7	au9	av2	aw5	ax8	ay1	az3	ba4	bb6	bc7
bd9	be2	bf5	bg8	bh1	bi3	bj6	bk7	bl9	bm2
bn5	bo8	bp1	bq3	br4	bs6	bt7	bu9	bv2	bw5
bx8	by1	bz3	ca4	cb6	cc7	cd9	ce2	cf5	cg8
ch1	ci3	cj6	ck7	cl9	cm2	cn5	co8	cp1	cq3
cr4	cs6	ct7	cu9	cv2	cw5	cx8	cy1	cz3	da4
db6	dc7	dd9	de2	df5	dg8	dh1	di3	dj6	dk7
dl9	dm2	dn5	do8	dp1	dq3	dr4	ds6	dt7	du9
dv2	dw5	dx8	dy1	dz3	ea4	eb6	ec7	ed9	ee2
ef5	eg8	eh1	ei3	ej6	ek7	el9	em2	en5	eo8
ep1	eq3	er4	es6	et7	eu9	ev2	ew5		



## Congress critics blame US Somalia deaths on Aspin

FROM IAN BRODIE  
IN WASHINGTON

LES ASPIN, the American defence secretary, was the focus of furious criticism in Washington yesterday over the mistakes and miscalculations that have cost the lives of 14 American soldiers in Somalia since Sunday.

Mr Aspin was castigated for twice refusing requests last month for tanks and armoured personnel carriers, which could have come to the rescue of the US Army Ranger company that was pinned down for 12 hours.

The requests were made by Major General Thomas Montgomery, commander of US forces in Somalia, and relayed to Mr Aspin by General Colin Powell. The general, who retired last week as chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, tried to convince Mr Aspin that the extra armour was needed in Mogadishu, the Somali capital.

Mr Aspin and his circle of deputies, all of them civilians appointed by President Clinton, rejected the requests on political grounds. They argued that Congress, already

**■ The administration's attempt to mollify critics of its Somali policy has merely added to the anger of those calling for the resignation of the US defence secretary**

uneasy about the Somali commitment, would not stand for a further increase in American military involvement, especially one that suggested they would be going increasingly on the offensive. Thirteen of the 100-strong Ranger company were killed and 78 wounded when they came under fire from about 400 guerrillas loyal to General Muhammad Farrah Aidid, the fugitive warlord, whose forces also shot down three US helicopters. One helicopter pilot was captured and six other Americans are missing.

As a vivid example of flaws in the United Nations command structure, it took hours of negotiations before Malaysian and Pakistani troops, who did have tanks and armoured personnel carriers, could be persuaded to go to the rescue of the embattled Rangers. The Malaysians and Pakistanis finally arrived at the

Rangers' site at 2 am, 11 hours after the fighting started.

An American airman was killed yesterday and 12 others were wounded in a mortar attack carried out by General Aidid's forces on the UN airport in Mogadishu.

As the scale of the American military disaster sank in, James Walsh, a Republican congressman, demanded Mr Aspin's resignation from the floor of the House of Representatives. "Those tanks would have saved that Ranger company," he said. A Republican senator, Alfonse D'Amato, described Mr Aspin's inaction as unconscionable.

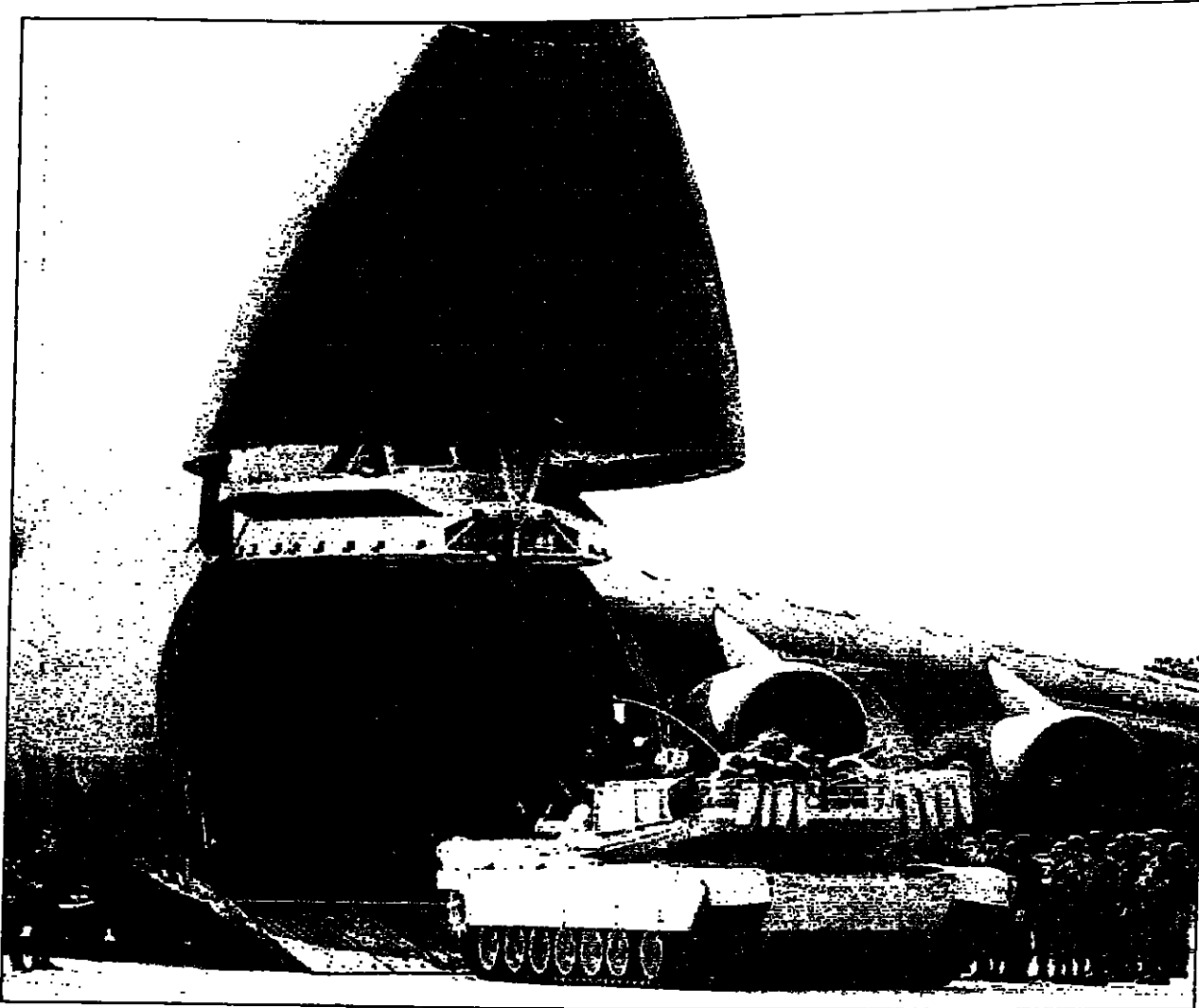
Mr Aspin and Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, made a calamitous attempt to mollify more than 200 members of Congress over the administration's Somali policy. At one point, dozens of members were on their feet shouting demands for US

troops to be withdrawn immediately.

There were widespread complaints that Mr Aspin and Mr Christopher tried to turn the meeting into a "touchy-feely encounter session" and talked in vague terms of needing time to "internalise" the lessons of Mogadishu, without offering any clue what to do about them. This is not the first time Mr Aspin has shown an unsteady hand at the helm of the Pentagon since taking office last January.

His reputation is not the only one to suffer. Jonathan Howe, the retired US Navy admiral who is director of UN operations in Somalia, has been criticised for giving priority to the capture of General Aidid. Mr Howe's political adviser was for a time April Glaspi, the former US ambassador in Baghdad, whose career plunged after she told President Saddam Hussein that Washington took no position on his massive armed build-up on the Kuwaiti border only a few days before the Gulf war invasion.

Casualties mount, page 1  
Leading article, page 19



American troops at Fort Stewart, Georgia, loading a tank on to a transport plane bound for Somalia yesterday. Les Aspin, the defence secretary, is being criticised for not sending more firepower sooner

## Sudanese fuel shortage sparks three-day riot

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

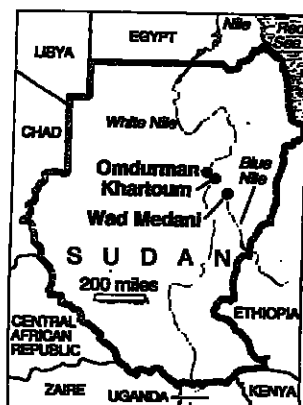
SUDAN, a country blamed for co-operating with Iran in encouraging the spread of Islamic militancy, has been hit by some of the worst anti-government rioting since the military junta took power in June 1989, backed by the National Islamic Front.

News of protests was broken yesterday by *al-Khartoum*, the Sudanese paper based in Cairo. A Western diplomat in Khartoum later confirmed that there had been three consecutive days of protest, starting in Omdurman, across the Nile from the capital.

Witnesses said the demonstrations had been sparked by a lack of fuel that had forced most types of transport to a standstill by the weekend. "There were demonstrations in Omdurman concerning the fuel shortages, the economic difficulties, the high cost of food and general dissatisfaction," the Western envoy said. He said the protests on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday had each involved several hundred people.

*Al-Khartoum*, whose reports are regarded as reliable, said police fired tear gas, used cudgels and made charges with motorcycles on Tuesday to break up crowds in Omdurman, a sprawling, dusty city of single-storey mud houses. Witnesses said demonstrators burned tyres and shouted anti-government slogans.

The newspaper said there had been similar protests in Wad Medani, a city on the Blue Nile, where demonstrators burned a government vehicle and police had used



tear gas. There were some injuries.

The Sudanese embassy in Cairo admitted there had been protests but attempted to play down their significance, saying they had been small and scattered. Sudan is known as a country from which free reporting is difficult.

Street protests have been the downfall of many previous governments in Sudan, a poverty-stricken country of 25 million people racked by civil war between a Muslim-dominated north and a African Christian and animist south.

The incompetent Sudanese government, already bankrupt and struggling to finance the civil war, has removed many subsidies and floated the currency in an attempt to create a free market economy. Compensating welfare measures to meet soaring prices have, however, resulted in hyperinflation. Shortly before the rioting began, the black market price of benzene fuel had reportedly risen from £2.30 to £10 a gallon.



Richard Leakey at London Zoo before the accident

## Leakey recalls final seconds before crash

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE

RICHARD Leakey, the wildlife conservationist, yesterday described the moment that the plane he was flying mysteriously lost power and crashed in Kenya, leading to the amputation of both legs below the knee.

"We were over deep ravine country and I knew it would be curtains if we came down there," said Dr Leakey, who is in London to have an artificial right limb fitted. He is already learning to live with a replacement left foot.

The author and palaeontologist said he had four passengers on board last June when the plane lost 90 per cent of power about seven minutes after taking

off from Nairobi. "Although there were the deep ravines below us, I could see a ridge top which was fairly flat and covered with trees and houses and I flew into the trees. I was knocked unconscious and don't remember anything until I woke up in hospital."

Dr Leakey has been the target of death threats in Kenya since President Moi asked him to administer the national parks in 1989, but he does not think the plane was sabotaged. "We checked, and there was no contamination of the fuel, and the fuel system was working properly. One theory is that a baffle worked loose and caused a blowback of gases."

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Muddled general election result invites Islamabad military to continue meddling in politics

## Bhutto prepares to rule Pakistan in rickety coalition

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN ISLAMABAD

BENAZIR Bhutto looked poised yesterday to return to power in Pakistan as head of a weak coalition government. An inconclusive general election guaranteed further chaos and dashed hopes that the military might stay out of politics.

The new government will have little authority and scant chance of surviving a full term, leaving the army as the only stable power. The muddled result forebodes more military intervention to separate squabbling politicians.

While there is no question of an army takeover, the shadow of the forces has grown darker and longer. Some of the new generation of generals want to leave politics to politicians, but events continue to drag them centre stage. They dreaded a frail government.

Miss Bhutto fell short of a

majority in the 217-seat National Assembly, but her Pakistan People's Party is the largest group. The rival Pakistan Muslim League of Mian Nawaz Sharif performed better than expected, especially as it lacked the support of the Islamic right — a valuable ally when it won the 1990 election — which deserted Mr Sharif for failing to Islamise the country fast enough.

Miss Bhutto and Mr Sharif yesterday began seeking support from 50 MPs elected as independents and members of small parties. Since floating MPs tend to gravitate to the probable winner, Miss Bhutto is best placed to entice enough of them to gain a parliamentary majority. She was in power for 20 months in 1989 and 1990, a period of weak government and political paralysis. Exasperated, the generals

sacked her. Three years later, they did the same to Mr Sharif.

Miss Bhutto said last night she was confident of being able to form a government. Mr Sharif's aides insisted the result was too close to make that a certainty; earlier, they had appeared on television saying they had won.

The scrupulously neutral caretaker government that succeeded Mr Sharif in July is to remain in office for another week until the National Assembly convenes. The incoming government will then face a confidence vote.

The shape of the government and opposition coalitions will be determined primarily by how much money and political promises are showered on small parties and independents.

Since most MPs are rich, the



Benazir Bhutto at a press conference in her Larkana home yesterday, where she claimed victory for her party in the Pakistan general election

bribes some of them will demand are enormous. Mr Sharif has the advantage of being one of South Asia's richest industrialists.

In an attempt to make these fickle coalitions binding, the caretaker government has banned floor-crossing in the

new assembly. Punjab, the country's richest and most populated state, is the next political prize. Provincial assembly elections will be held there tomorrow, as well as in the North West Frontier, Baluchistan and Sindh. They are as important as the federal

poll. If Punjab falls to the Muslim League, while Miss Bhutto captures the central government, there will be stalemate. Without Punjab's goodwill, the federal government can hardly function.

This could be a replay of earlier times when Mr Sharif

was chief minister of Punjab and Miss Bhutto was prime minister. He used Punjab's might to cripple her administration, preventing its passing even the blandest legislation. Miss Bhutto left Karachi last night for Lahore, the Punjabi capital, to resume campaign-

ing. It must please Mr Sharif that he made surprising inroads in Miss Bhutto's home province of Sindh, in part because a local anti-Bhutto ethnic party, the Mohajir Qaumi Movement, boycotted the polls. She, in turn, performed well in Punjab.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Angola peace talks to resume

Luanda: The Angolan government has agreed to resume negotiations with the rebel Unita movement to end the country's bloody civil war, a United Nations spokesman said yesterday.

Government delegates told Alouine Blondin Beye, the UN special envoy, that they would meet Unita representatives after the rebels said on Wednesday that they would accept the result of last year's general elections, which they lost.

The UN said the talks would be based on the Bicesse peace accords of May 1991, the Abidjan protocol drawn up by mediators in an attempt to end renewed fighting, which was rejected by Unita last May, and UN Security Council resolutions on Angola. The UN said it had received an official declaration from the rebels that they would accept the election results, but the Angop news agency said the communiqué made no reference to withdrawing rebel troops from areas they have seized, a government precondition for talks. (AFP)

#### Mugabe invited

Cairo: Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, has invited President Mugabe of Zimbabwe to be the first foreign head of state to visit him in Jericho and the Gaza Strip when Mr Arafat returns there next year after the Israeli withdrawal.

#### Burma accused

London: Amnesty International accused Burmese authorities of widespread rights violations. It says hundreds of political prisoners are held, including Aung San Suu Kyi, the 1991 Nobel peace prize winner, who is in her fifth year of house arrest. (AFP)

#### Slim victory

Brazzaville: President Lisoube's backers have won a three-seat majority in the 125-member parliament, according to unofficial results from the second round of the Congolese general election, which has been troubled by fraud allegations. (AFP)

#### Students march

Phnom Penh: About 1,000 students marched through Cambodia's capital, urging officials to change the language of instruction from French to English. They said using French as an unofficial second language would hamper the country's development. (AP)

#### Light relief

Tokyo: Overworked employees of the city's municipal government are getting a break on Wednesdays, which have been decreed as "no-overtime days". At 6pm, the lights are switched off, reminding workers that it is time to go home. (Reuters)

#### Tiger ban bites

Peking: China's only tiger-breeding centre says a government ban on sales of tiger products has pushed it into the red. The centre in northern Heilongjiang province said it could no longer cull its Siberian tigers to help buy feed for the rest. (Reuters)



Morrison: lyrical

#### Jazz prose rhythms win Nobel acclaim

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

The 1993 Nobel Prize for literature was awarded yesterday to Toni Morrison, the novelist whose lyrical and mythical prose has been credited with forging a new genre in black American fiction.

Describing her six novels as "finely wrought and cohesive, yet at the same time rich in variation", the Swedish academy commended the 62-year-old writer for her prose written "with the lustre of poetry".

Morrison becomes the third English-language writer in succession to win the Nobel literature prize, following Derek Walcott, the West Indian poet, last year, and Nadine Gordimer, a South African, in 1991.

Avowedly political, her fiction interweaves history, legend and humour to explore the nature of the black woman's experience in America while her essays examine modern issues.

Her latest novel, *Jazz*, is a vivid evocation of life in Harlem's heyday, written in a syncopated style that echoes the rhythms of the music itself.

Morrison "delves into the language itself, a language she wants to liberate from the fetters of race", the academy said. But her writing usually avoids the sometimes leaden style of overtly "politically correct" writers. "My project rises from delight, not disappointment," she wrote in 1992.

Her first novel, *The Bluest Eye*, was published in 1970 to instant acclaim. In 1988 she won the Pulitzer prize for literature, a year after publishing *Beloved* which became an international best-seller.

This has proved to be a bumper year for black women writers in America, with Maya Angelou reading a special poem at President Clinton's inauguration and Rita Dove becoming the first black US poet laureate in May.

The Nobel prize, worth \$825,000 (£550,000), will be presented to Morrison on December 10.

Daniel Johnson, page 16

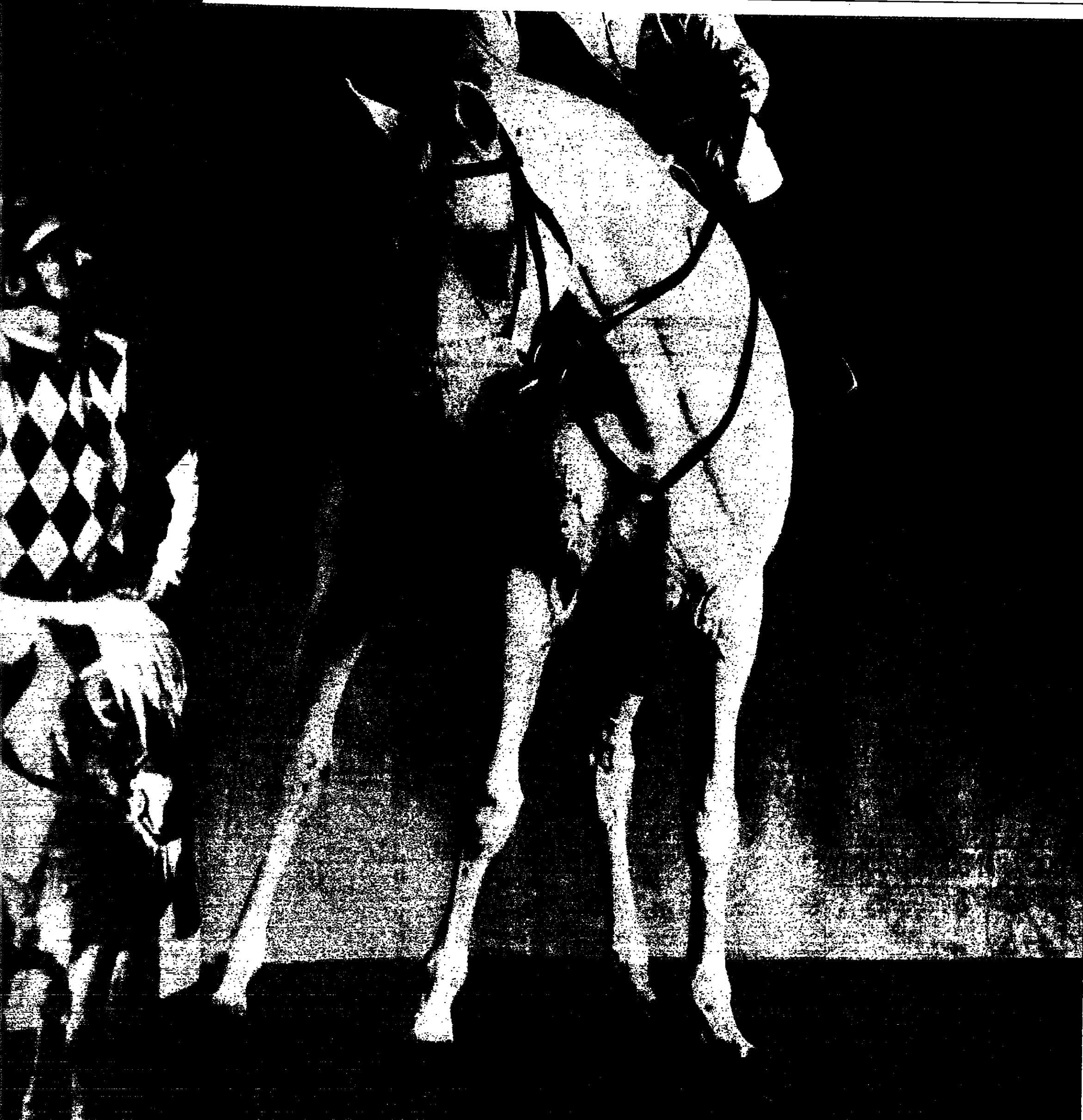


ILLUSTRATION BY WOOD

digital



# Germans offer hope to Central Europe of closer Nato ties

FROM ROGER BOYES  
IN BONN

GERMANY tried yesterday to reassure nervous Central Europeans that Nato is still interested in closer ties with its eastern neighbours. Politicians, particularly in Warsaw and Prague, are afraid that the West will shy away from the East to avoid rattling already restless Russian generals.

Volker Rühe, the German defence minister, visiting Prague yesterday, could not entirely talk away these anxieties. But he is one of the most outspoken champions in the alliance of accelerating the entry of Central Europeans.

Above all, he favours practical co-operation between West and East, partly to increase a sense of security among those nations sandwiched between Russia and the Nato countries, and partly to ease their eventual integration. He has proposed joint Polish-German manoeuvres, and there is a dense network of contacts at corps, divisional and even battalion level between the Czech and German armies.

The uncertainties in Russia were underlined this summer when President Yeltsin, in a visit to Warsaw, said that Moscow would not stand in the way of Polish membership of Nato. He said that it was a "sovereign decision by a sover-

**Bonn has proposed more co-operation, including joint military manoeuvres, with its nervous Eastern neighbours who are sandwiched between Russia and the West**

ign nation". But in subsequent letters to Western leaders, he quickly backtracked — a sign of the Russian president's political dependency on the country's generals, who are far from happy about Nato extending its eastern frontiers to the river Bug on the Russo-Polish border.

This move, combined with President Yeltsin's attempts to revise the Conventional Forces Reduction Agreement — the cornerstone of the post-Cold War security system — has brought new tension to Central Europe. The Czechs and the Poles, scaling down their forces in line with the deal, are growing increasingly weak compared with Russia.

Klaus Kinkel, the German foreign minister, told Warren Christopher, the American Secretary of State, this week that "Nato's expansion into Central Europe was an urgent necessity — but could be done only with the approval of the Russians."

Bonn's original aim of setting a date and conditions for Central European entry at the Nato summit in January has

now been watered down. Nato seems to be moving towards the British line, which is that European Community membership is more important for the Central Europeans.

Since such membership would be a guarantee of a country's democratic and economic credentials, Nato membership could follow swiftly. Bonn was responding not only to Russian events, but also to intensive lobbying by other Eastern European states.

Ukraine, Romania and Bulgaria all feel that they would become dangerously isolated if the Poles, Hungarians and Czechs were admitted to Nato.

Despite wartime memories of the German army, Bonn is regarded as a useful model by Central Europe. The Germans have skillfully absorbed the former East German army and taken over some of its equipment.

If the East German army can be so completely integrated into the Nato structure, say the Central Europeans, their own military transition should not be too difficult.

# Croats accused of atrocities in Krajina

FROM TIM JUDAH  
IN BELGRADE

A UNITED Nations special envoy has demanded that the Croatian government investigate allegations that its troops executed Serb civilians and razed villages during a recent incursion into the Serb-held Krajina region. The news came as the UN also accused Bosnian Croat troops of a renewed round of ethnic cleansing in Mostar, saying 530 civilians had been expelled last week.

Tadeusz Mazowiecki, the UN Human Rights Commission's special envoy to former Yugoslavia, has written to Mate Granic, the Croatian foreign minister, demanding an investigation and punishment for those involved in the alleged atrocities. He was particularly disturbed by evidence of arbitrary executions by Croat forces who entered the Medak area last month.

"So far 67 bodies have been recovered while another 48 people remain unaccounted for," Mr Mazowiecki said. "The examination of several bodies indicates that they were shot at close range. The victims include women and elderly people."

Croat forces retreated from the area after Serb forces hit a Zagreb suburb with surface to surface missiles and shelled several other Croatian towns.

A UN report alleged that in one incident a blind woman of 84 had been killed by ten soldiers spraying gunfire at her porch. It also alleged that



Crowds gathering in Belgrade yesterday to collect flour, rationed by the Serbian government for five weeks

Croatian soldiers dragged two wounded Serbs from a car and threw them into a house that was then torched. Shannon Boyd, the UN spokeswoman in Zagreb, said: "The scale of physical destruction and killing of residents... indicates that the Croatian army practised a comprehensive scorched earth policy."

Bosnia's Muslims also stand accused of committing atrocities. Documents released by Helsinki Watch, the New York-based human rights watchdog, lists allegations of torture and other crimes against both Serbs and Croats. The report says: "The behaviour of Bosnian Muslim troops has not been fully investigated by interna-

tional observers to date." It concludes: "International apathy towards abuses perpetrated by Serbian forces over the past two years has encouraged Bosnian Muslim and Croat forces to adopt similar measures in recent months."

□ New York: President Zet-begovic of Bosnia-Herzegovina yesterday called for Nato to name its own mediator to future peace talks among the republic's warring factions. In an address to the UN General Assembly, he proposed that the Nato representative work alongside Lord Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg, who chair the negotiations on behalf of the European Community and the UN.

# Europe ready to confront Major

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

WHEN John Major rises to speak at the Conservative party conference today, what he says on the still-painful subject of European marks not only the close of the first Maastricht battle but also the opening of hostilities on several new fronts.

Next Tuesday morning, eight judges of Germany's constitutional court in Karlsruhe are likely to deliver their verdict against the legal challenges to Maastricht, which have put the pro-treaty Bonn government in the embarrassing position of being the last in the Community to ratify the treaty. The treaty will almost certainly come into force on November 1.

Mr Major will be stuck in a paradox without precedent.



Delors: brooding in embittered silence

All the short-term trends in Europe are in his favour. Plans for a single currency are in disarray. Proposals for tighter political union, driven by a united European foreign policy, have been shot to pieces in the killing grounds of the Balkans.

Jacques Delors, the Commission president, so often a thorn in the side of British governments, broods in embittered silence. He is not receiving the help to which he is accustomed from the French and German governments.

Yet Mr Major is more unpopular in Brussels, Bonn and Paris than ever. Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, thinks that he was betrayed by Mr Major over Maastricht. The prime minister's initially warm friendship with the centre-right government in Paris has cooled.

When the Maastricht treaty is released from its long bondage in courts and parliaments, a continental counter-attack against Mr Major will open.

Mr Major will soon be confronted by fellow Community leaders triumphantly brandishing the outward signs of European unity while real emotions are mixed.

In Germany, Euroscepticism is growing. French opinion polls are registering small majorities against the Community for the first time in its history.

Conference, pages 1, 6, 7

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# Yeltsin preaches reconciliation as Moscow mourns

FROM ANNE McELVOY  
IN MOSCOW

MOSCOW was in official mourning yesterday for those killed in the crushing of the rebellion against President Yeltsin. Flags were flown at half mast in the Kremlin and atop the burnt-out White House, scene of Monday's battle between government troops and supporters of parliament. Black ribbons were draped outside other public buildings.

The death toll stands at 171 after the discovery of 49 bodies inside the parliament building. Most of the victims were on the opposition side. The coffins of 12 policemen and five interior ministry troops were laid out inside Moscow police headquarters before their funerals yesterday.

■ While President Yeltsin is treating the dead from the Moscow rebellion even-handedly, his crackdown against his surviving political opponents continues

day. Riot police in khaki fatigues filed by the open caskets as the Death March was played. A separate service was conducted at the interior ministry where Viktor Yerin, the interior minister, said the deceased had "died in violence to save peace in Russia".

The Russian leadership is anxious to encourage an atmosphere of reconciliation. All funerals are being paid for by the state, regardless of which side the victims were on. Mr Yeltsin expressed condolences to the relatives of all the victims of the fighting, saying:

"However different their opinions might have been, they were all children of Russia. Their deaths are our common tragedy."

While he pronounced reconciliation, the president's clampdown on opposition continued with an announcement that the country's highest court, the Constitutional Court, was being suspended. Saying it had helped push the country towards civil war, Mr Yeltsin issued a decree suspending the court until a new constitution was adopted.

He also said he was disbanding city councils and district Soviets that supported the rebels. He intended to appoint chiefs of regional administrations rather than have them elected, a move intended to prevent the formation of stubborn provincial power-centres opposed to the will of Moscow.



Can Mr Yeltsin rely on your vote in the forthcoming general election?



Tourists watching one of the final guard-changing ceremonies in front of Lenin's tomb in Red Square before the troops were removed

## Eviction rumours bring out crowds to ogle the oldest hardliner in town

FROM MARTIN IVENS IN MOSCOW

THE embalmed body of Lenin in its marble mausoleum on Red Square no longer has a goose-stepping pair of soldiers from the elite Kremlin regiment to honour it. What was once a sight as familiar as the bear-skinned defenders of Buckingham Palace has disappeared.

"The cult of great men is a bourgeois myth," said Karl Marx. But for 70 years the high priests of the Marxist-Leninist faith have erected shrines to the memory of their messiah. The mausoleum is communism's holy sepulchre of atheism but, until 1991 and the failure of the August coup, there were other little Lenin shrines scattered throughout the former Soviet Union. Most are now closed, their sacred relics interred in hidden vaults, except for the red-brick Lenin museum on the Kremlin side of Manezh Square.

But even the Lenin museum was closed yesterday due to "technical reasons". Vladimir Efimovich, the museum director, said that he was afraid of a "provocation". Outside the ugly knot of hardliners denouncing Pres-

ident Yeltsin as a Jew provided provocation in plenty. But perhaps Mr Efimovich was also referring to the government which has ordered that his collection be moved out of the building forthwith.

As soon as the tanks had ceased pounding the White House on Monday, the umbrella group of democratic organisations of Russia called upon their hero, Mr Yeltsin, to "destroy the symbol of communism — the Lenin mausoleum", to bury the body and transfer guard post No.1 to the eternal flame further along the Kremlin wall. Yesterday the order was given to abolish the guard post. Will Lenin's body shortly follow?

President Yeltsin is cleaning out the Angean stables, dispensing with the refuse of communism that has continued to clutter up the capital two years after the fall of the Soviet regime. While there was even the ghost of a chance of a compromise with parliament, he refrained from tampering with the communist holy of holies, judging that a war over a waxen corpse was not worth



The body of Lenin on view in the mausoleum

waging. Rumours of the imminent removal of the body brought Muscovites scurrying to Red Square, some in curiosity, some in reverence. Bathed in spectral light, they saw the Bolshevik leader laid out in his glass sarcophagus, dressed in a black suit and a polka-dot tie. But the shrine's mournful

music had been switched off and its pious orderlies had vanished.

Lenin's body was placed there in 1924, first in a temporary wooden building, then in 1930 in its present-day angular structure built by the architect Aleksei Shchusev. It later served as a platform from which Stalin

and his successors could inspect the annual May Day parade. The shrine has twice been disturbed, first when Stalin's body was removed in disgrace to be buried nearby, and secondly when Lenin's pickled remains had to be taken out for repair.

Lenin himself would probably have been disgusted at the preservation of his corpse, although his contempt for the cult of personality was balanced by a mystical belief in his literal ability to embody the people. "If we have to decide the fate of his body it should be decided at the highest level," Mr Efimovich said. "After all, it took a resolution of the second Congress of People's Deputies to put him there."

Sometimes you can turn back the clock of history. The museum is reverting to its former function as the home of the Moscow city council under Yuri Luzhkov, the mayor. Sometimes you cannot. Statues and shrines to communist heroes are built into the fabric of the Kremlin wall, just as the Soviet era, for good or for ill, is built into the fabric of Russia.

Leading article, page 19

## Abkhazia leader tries to please motley backers

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN GUDAUTA, ABKHAZIA

VLADISLAV Ardzimba, leader of the breakaway Georgian region of Abkhazia, is a man whose dreams have come true. He has long worked for separation from Georgia, and with Georgian troops and civilians practically driven from the region, this separation has been achieved.

The Abkhazian government will remain in Gudauta, a Black Sea resort town which has been their provisional capital since last November, for several more days at least while Sukhumi recovers from months of bombardment. At night marauding Abkhazian, Caucasian and "Cossack" troops in the city have been attacking the few remaining Georgian civilians.

The soldiers around Mr Ardzimba's office were a motley crew: Abkhazian farmers turned peasant militia mingled with wild-looking North Caucasian allies and Russians who looked like officers on secondment. With the war over, the interests of the Russians and North Caucasians risk coming into conflict, and

Mr Ardzimba has somehow to balance between them.

He has always been an advocate of a Russian alignment for Abkhazia, partly because he comes from the former Soviet elite. The North Caucasian volunteers have been fighting with the Abkhazians partly on the basis of Caucasian solidarity, but, they indicated, also to gain military experience for a future war of their own for independence from Russia. Some argued that to fight against Georgia in Abkhazia was really to fight against Russian imperialism.

Mr Ardzimba said: "Russia is a people and state with whom we have ancient ties. Our ethnic brothers live in the Russian North Caucasus. A strict border with Russia would split our people." □ Tbilisi: Up to 20,000 refugees fleeing Abkhazia face death in the snow-covered mountains of Svantia, said Irina Sarisvili, the Georgian deputy prime minister. "In the past three days, more than 60 people died in the mountains," she said. (Reuters)



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# Of prizes and prejudice

The history of the Nobel literature prize is littered with anomalies and controversies of a kind that the science prizes rarely generate. That is because litera-

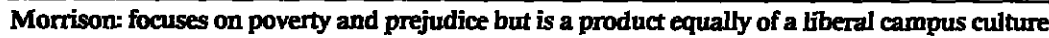
Her own origins are in small-town Ohio, where Chloe Wofford was born in 1931. (She adopted the *nom de plume* Toni Morrison only for her first novel, *The Blues* Eye, which appeared in 1970, and

ation was established when *Song of Solomon*, her third novel, won awards in 1977, she returned from the editorial chair to the lecture hall, and is now a much-fêred professor at Princeton.

campaign to have references to "niggers" in Twain's *Huckleberry Finn* censored. "I won't call it silly, because I know what they're about. But they're so busy looking at skin colour that they can't see

world by the same criteria as Dwyers or anybody else. If Toni Morrison's work lives, it will do so on literary merit alone.

● *Daniel Johnson is Literary Editor of The Times.*



## The years in the wings may be over for Greece's First Lady in waiting

The exposure of the relationship, combined with allegations that Mr Papandreou was linked to a £130 million corruption scandal, caused him lasting political damage. At the same time, just weeks before the 1989 election, a book was published showing Dimitris sunbathing and

"I don't think Mimi would be advised to play a major political role", says an observer. "but Pasok is a sentimental party and when he does die I think she may become a sort of mascot for the movement."



... Mimi would be  
... a major political  
... observer, "but Pasok  
... party and when he  
... she may become a  
... for the movement."

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SUNDAY 10th OCTOBER At 11 am	<b>THE BRITANNIA</b> <b>INTER-CONTINENTAL HOTEL</b> Great Court Square London W1	SUNDAY 10th OCTOBER At 3 pm <b>JACK STRAW'S CASTLE</b> (Function Room) North End Way, Hammersmith Heath London NW6
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turned himself into the most aggressive, celebrated and hated defence lawyer in America.

Mr Kunstler's enemies loathe him to the same degree that his clients adore him, and he takes equal pride in both. Since taking on the World Trade Centre bombing case, the obscenities and threats have accumulated as never before, pushed under his

fame and the cause of defending those whom others attack are the same process. "They haven't got a case," he thundered as, with swirling eyebrows raised in courtroom emphasis, he stands to offer his final word on his new case.

Then, without a pause, he asks: "Wouldn't you like a copy of my résumé?"

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**BEN MACINTYRE**

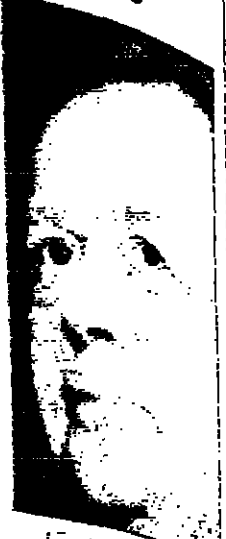
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FRIDAY OCTOBER 8 1993

hostility



Sir Peregrine  
Worsthorne  
reflects on  
adultery, guilt,  
vanity — and the  
virtues to be  
found in a life of  
true love



THE  
VALERIE GROVE  
INTERVIEW

**S**ir Peregrine Worsthorne lives, as such a name should, in lordly splendour with his wife Lucy in a small but perfectly formed old rectory in a village where time stands still.

Who does not marvel at Perry? He is so shameless. And never more so than in his autobiography, *Tricks of Memory*, which is full of surprises and enormous fun, with an exquisite infant self on the cover, quite bare and captioned "Naked to mine enemies".

Nothing quite explains his self-contradictory nature. He cannot be a traditional English gent, raffishly attired in dandy pink bow-tie and corduroys. He may pontificate as a paternalistic High Tory, Catholic upholder of moral rigour, "battling for the survival of monogamous marriage", but his own life has been cavalier, bohemian and rakish.

He tells of persistent adulteries with some fascinating women, and of the dissolute companions with whom he roistered in Hogarthian squallor. A record hard to reconcile with reverence for the *no-blesse-oblige* governing class that produced him. Before he married his amusing French wife Claudie (then the divorced mother of a young son), who lived like him in a lodging-house run by a con-man, Claudie became pregnant by Perry, and had a backstreet abortion which went badly wrong.

"The abortion," he says, "was a deeply shame-making and horrifying episode that rocked me to the very roots of my being. One, because Claudie nearly died; two, the appalling regret; then the inquiry by the police (this was pre-abortion law reform) which was a very frightening experience."

He has not, therefore, practised what he has preached. "Certainly. But if that were the rule, no churchman would ever deliver a sermon, because presumably only God himself is perfect. It seems to me," he

says, "that the more one is a sinner, and breaks the rules, the better you realise the dangers of doing so. To have experienced the consequences, in terms of guilt and the sense of shame, of succumbing to temptations, is a far stronger position from which to write. Just because one occasionally drives across a red light doesn't mean one should not say, we must have red lights."

**F**or all his self-exposure, he regards asking people questions, as I have to, as *infra dig*. "It contravenes good manners to be unacceptably curious. In fact I'm just not very good at it. Also, I'm afraid, it's vanity. Not wanting to be thought the kind of hack who does press and probe."

So he had been too fastidious to mention, until now, LBJ's fascinating aside that Lady Bird was "the best little lay in town": it would have been "grotesquely disloyal". It was a question of taste. And yet he can be quite disgusting in his own column, viz his account of how, offended by someone eating a hamburger on the Tube, he "managed to break wind" to drive the oak away. He did not think this a breach of taste. Others, including his wife, did.

His was an extraordinary background. While his brother was being born in Cadogan Square, Paderewski was playing mazurkas in the drawing room downstairs. Their Belgian-born father, Colonel A Koch de Goereynd, vanished and married twice more. Their distant mother Priscilla (who founded the WRVS) intervened rarely, except to administer an enema or write anxiously to his headmaster about Perry's immaturity and friendliness. "Perry was always a little troublesome, even at the breast," she wrote in her own memoirs.

When, as he learnt from a newspaper billboard, she remarried Montagu Norman, governor of the Bank of England, Perry and his brother were set up in a separate house with nanny and butler.

He felt quite at home on *The Times*, in old Printing House Square, where in the 1950s he and fellow leader writers were still served afternoon tea and toast by uniformed parlour maids before a coal fire. To leave such gentlemanly purities for the *Telegraph* was a comedown, he felt, but despite Lord Hartwell's aversion to "viewy" journalists, the *Telegraph* nurtured his showy tendencies.

So he fits into that incestuous coterie of journalists who comment with egregious respect on the others' views: "As my good friend Mr Auberon Waugh/Mr Alan Watkins/Mr Geoffrey Wheatcroft/Mr A. N. Wilson/Mr Paul Johnson has written..." Mutual disloyalty never dents the camaraderie.

This week Wheatcroft wrote a very good profile of Sir Perry. "Very clever piece," said Sir P. codeword for "wonderfully accurate". He is plainly stung by Wheatcroft's comment that he is "not an intellectual" when he has always considered himself a bit

## 'One sins, to better realise the danger of sinning'

of an intellectual. And if they met that day in the Garrick bar? "I shall be *effusively* friendly — in the English manner."

For an Old Stoic he is wonderfully unstoical, wearing heart on sleeve, shedding public tears. The entertaining, but to him chastening, case with Andrew Neil over "Playboys as Editors" he thinks made fools of them both, but it was Perry who wrote of feeling, in Court 13, like a helpless schoolboy. In postscript he quotes Andrew Neil's letter to him on Claudie's death: "I just hope that one day I will be lucky enough to find a girl who will show me the same devoted loyalty as she showed you." Perry was greatly touched.

"Still, I think that case began a worthwhile debate between Old and New Britain. In some ways I regard Mrs Thatcher as a New Brit, and Max Hastings, too." As Tory

and Labour parties, C of E and Oxbridge are taken over by radicals, and "the whole culture is drenched with radical attitudes with no respect for or understanding of the past", only his younger Fogey friends on the *Spectator* find a rear-guard action.

**H**e writes of the thrill of becoming editor of the *Sunday Telegraph*, shortly followed by the bodyblow shock of being sacked over poached eggs in Claridge's. I quote to him what Simon Jenkins wrote of Harry Evans's similarly wounded memoir: "He sold his soul for a night of glory in the editorial chair, to awake next morning predictably wretched and alone. What's new there? It has happened since newspapers began." "But you always think you will be the exception," said Perry. "It will never happen to you."

Never mind: there are better things in life. The backs he leaves behind toll in the distant, unfriendly hellholes that now pass for newspaper offices. Post-diaspora journalism is not what it was in El Vino days. He knows how lucky he is. He dictates a weekly column, plying those who have to be at the ringside in Blackpool, "describing the contemptible squabbles of Norman Fowler and John MacGregor. Even Mrs Thatcher seems to have become part of the sleaze, bargaining over this book. Most undignified." Where are the great men? he asks, predicting that the Scott inquiry will have a Dreyfus-style moral and political resonance.

He said, as he drove us back to London with Alan Clark-like panache, that his writing stimulus had always been the infecting blandness and mushy liberalism of our age. "Liberal high-mindedness was necessary in the 1930s, but after the war a bit of blimping became a necessary correction to the general weakness."

Let other pens write judiciously; he prefers the single flash of intuition. It has led to reckless "to hell with the consequences" bravado (*Spectator* diary, 1985.) When Conrad Black took over the *Telegraph* he rushed into print to describe him as domineering, verbose and discouragingly pious. "Why I had written so imprudently is difficult to say," he writes. "Another example of ill-judged exhibitionism."

But this is what people love: the risks he takes. Even to those who "detest everything he stands for," as George Melly wrote, "he remains inexplicably endearing." (Melly denies deflowering Perry at school, although he admitted his floppy hats and silken kerchiefs.)

Since his most famous indiscretion was when discussing the Lambton affair on television (like Ken Tynan before him and Johnny Rotten after) how poignant it was that Lambton's daughter Lucy should save him in 1990 from the depths of grief. They fell wildly in love — he was enraptured by her ornate Gothic house — and married with great exuberance at once.

**A**ristocratic titles are their only squabble. Lucy, daughter of an earl and erstwhile wife of a baronet, always fiercely resisted being Lady, so was confounded when her "sweetheart" was knighted. Her whooshing enthusiasm routs his "depressive and melancholic" glooms, usually disguised by hail-fellow bonhomie. "If you went into the Garrick with a mournerful

face people would shy away." Had he not found Lucy, he would be haunting the Garrick and Beefsteak for companionship. Instead, life is all jollifications. He gets Lucy to show me her pantaloons made of Union flags, £2 in the Portobello Road, which she wore to the last night of the Proms. In John Birt's box, they sang "Land of Hope and Glory" along with Lord Owen, Michael Heseltine and the omniscient Stephen Fry.

They travel nostalgically to the American boomdocks, seeking an Old English way of life in small towns with gentle people, Gatsby-style hospitality, and main streets out of Norman Rockwell. This summer they stayed in Michigan with the wife of one of Lucy's friends, the Every Brothers. Despite his rigorous training on *The Times*, he still cannot spell *Every* correctly.

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## Very nearly a royal wedding

THE marriage of Viscount Linley to the Hon Serena Stanhope is nearly a royal wedding, but not quite. By the standards of the grand productions in Westminster Abbey we have become used to, today's service next door in St Margaret's Church, Westminster, will be a comparatively modest affair.

Son of the Queen's sister and twelfth in line to the throne he may be, but David Linley is, according to the rules of who is and is not a member of the royal family laid down by George V in 1917, a commoner. Children of a sovereign's daughter do not become royal highnesses. As Princess Margaret has observed: "My children are not royal: their aunt just happens to be the Queen."

Lord Linley will be glad of this, given the recent dismal record of properly royal marriages consecrated in the sombre grandeur of the abbey or the airy splendour of St Paul's.

St Margaret's, to whose offices the bride is entitled as the daughter of a peer, has a commoner touch and a rather better record for lasting unions: Churchill was married there in 1908, and Mountbatten in 1922.

Today, after the exceedingly bad press the House of Windsor has suffered in the last two years, a conspicuously opulent abbey wedding might not produce the same national glow of wellbeing of similar occasions.

Royal or near-royal marriage as public spectacle is anyway a relatively recent phenomenon. Victoria and Albert married in the privacy of the Chapel Royal at St James's Palace, as did the

The Linley marriage  
holds more hope than  
an abbey spectacular



At ease: Linley and Serena

future George V and Queen Mary. Princess Patricia of Connaught, a granddaughter of Victoria, was the first to choose the abbey in 1919. Since then it has seen eight royal weddings, the last in 1986 when Prince Andrew married Sarah Ferguson.

The present generation of young minor royals have married without excessive show — and have had the very good fortune to be able to slide into a married life of decent semi-obscure, free from the pressures that have bedevilled those closer to the throne. James Ogilvy, son of Princess Alexan-

dra and Sir Angus Ogilvy, married in a parish church in Essex, his sister Marina Mowatt in a church at Ham, Surrey.

Minor royals and near-royals also work for their living: James Ogilvy is a merchant banker; Lady Helen Windsor, daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Kent, helps run a Bond Street art gallery. David Linley, academically uninspired at Bedales school, draws on the artistic temperament inherited from his father Lord Spynodon and is in what he refers to as "felicitous trade" as proprietor of David Linley Furniture.

Viscount Petersham, the bride's father and a London landowner who owns much of South Kensington, will not stint on the hospitality today. The reception will be in St James's Palace by courtesy of the groom's aunt, and the champagne will be the finest Dom Ruinart. Several members of the royal family will be in attendance — and several others unavoidably detained elsewhere. The denizens of the lower end of the King's Road will regard it as the society wedding of the year, with tears and sulks among those left off the invitation list.

David and Serena Linley no doubt will be pursued by the gossip columns for a long while yet, but they will enjoy the luxury, denied to some of the groom's relations, of slipping back into the Fulham milieu in which they both feel at ease.

ALAN HAMILTON



## Philip Howard



■ As blood sports go, fishing and politics have a great deal in common

An emergency escape route from politics lies in fishing, fishermen say. Statesmen from Jonah to Lords Home and Whitlaw have found peace from the troubles of this wicked world among the fish, who do not answer back or hector, or give standing ovations of wondrously different lengths. For those who could endure no more conference talk, from all political parties, the place to be yesterday was up among the brown lochs of darkest Ayrshire. Some of us loads of hoppers even limped there dragging broken legs, to get away from it all, in the process filling our tubular National Health crutches up to the oxters with peat bog that is going to puzzle the osteopath at Paddington.

Anglers boast of the innocence of their pastime, though I think that if fish could scream, we should hear less of that; and the famous opportunities for quiet meditation for fishermen on the surface of the loch may be just an excuse for brain vacancy. Nothing wrong with occasional vacuity. Izaak Walton, the little Englisher Herodotus, was first to contrast the statesman preventing or contriving plots, with the fishermen sitting on cowslip-banks, hearing the birds sing. I prefer to do the rowing, being squeamish and clumsy at unpicking tangles in a gale.

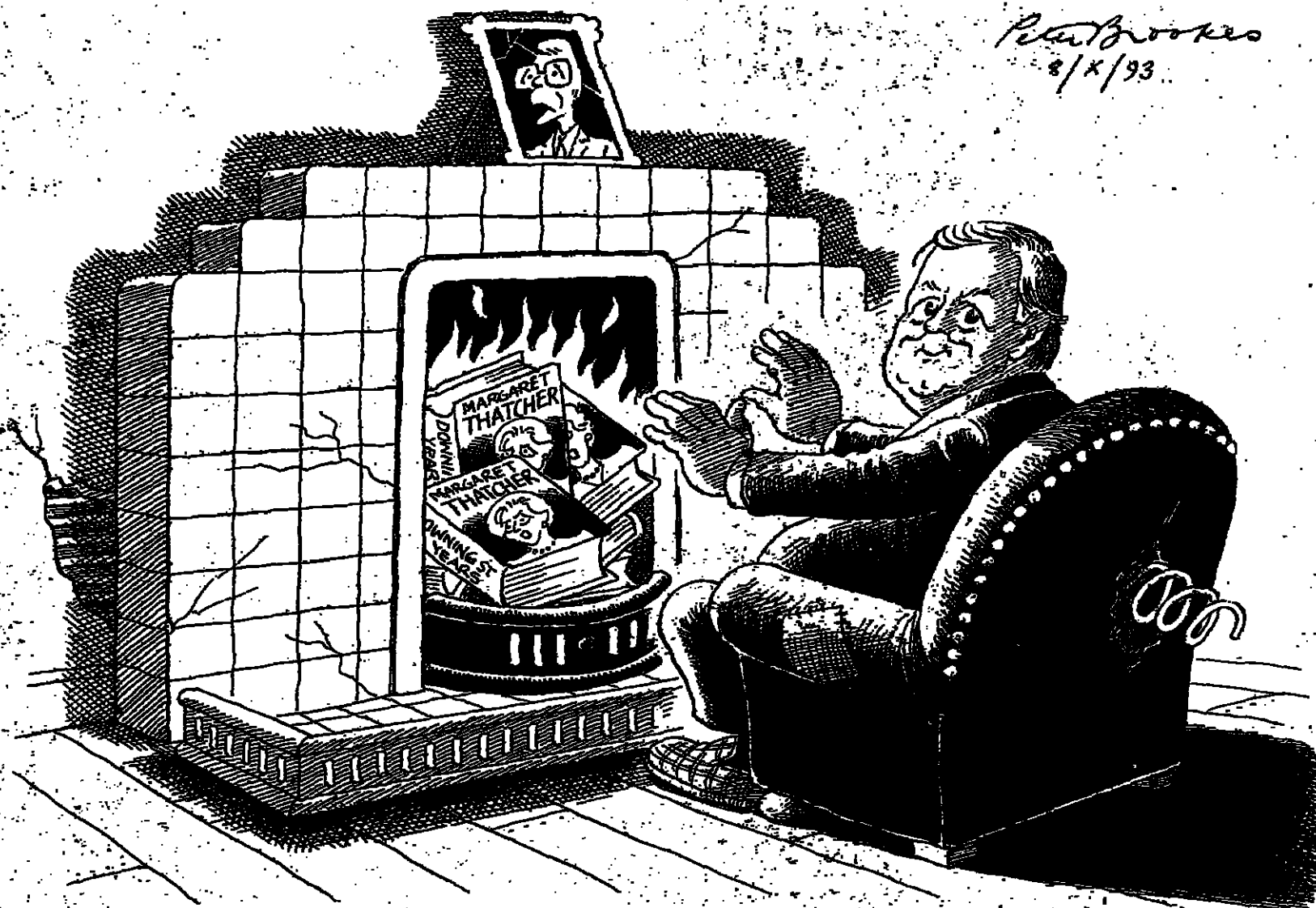
But even up there, ten miles from the nearest road, and out of range of the news, because of the surrounding bowl of barren hills, the contrast between fishing and party politics is not as marked as distinguished Izaak pretended. There may be no press gang of journalists in their feeding frenzy of tearing their victim of the day to pieces, but the midges can be just as single-minded.

It is true that no political memoirs disturb the howling Scotch mist, only bound volumes of the *Corhill* magazine. But the jottings of fishermen going back a century in the club record books are quite as fishy-fingered, self-serving and economical with the truth as those of politicians, though mercifully shorter. Some of their boasts of huge catches, perfect fishing conditions, and an imaginary golden piscatorial age are as unpersuasive as a ringing declaration that any enemy of the club president is an enemy of all the club.

Clothes are as formulaic as at party conference. But where royal blue is the symbolic colour for Tories, and sandals with socks suit Liberal Democrats, and red tie flaunt Labour, the politically correct dress for fishermen is a dirty barbour, and if possible grandfather's fisherman's waistcoat from Harrods with a Cash's namelap to prove its provenance. Waterproof trousers with legs wide enough to take a plaster cast would have been a bonus.

The gobbledegook of fishermen with infallible flies named *Bloodie Dasher* and *Blue Zulu* is just as impenetrable and as optimistic as the jargon of economists. Both are eternally convinced that they have got it right this time. Both are always wrong, again. "Enduring strength" is the false boast of both politicians and cast-iron. Commands of "keep your flies working" from the professionals sound as doomed to disappointment as a party chairman calling for unity. Work is not what fishing is about, just as unity is not what party politics is about.

But it was when Izaak got on to the particular fishes that politics and fishing merge into the same fascinating but not peaceful blood sport. He has a powerful passage about the great old trout who is both subtle and unpredictable, and lies up in its hold during the day, but emerges at unexpected times, and then feeds very boldly. In the clubhouse one great old trout is stuffed above the door, with its tail broken by the passage of the century, to remind degenerate moderns of a legendary golden age, when fishermen were heroes, and trout came ten times larger than anything today. Fishing is just politics carried on by other means, but including the arts of flattery, brutality and deception. Neither is ever going to catch as much as it pretends or hopes. It is a category mistake to claim that one is better or more peaceful than the other. In the long run, for trout with scales and trout with legs, the game always ends with a sharp blow in the polls.



SUGGESTION FOR REDUCING DOMESTIC FUEL BILLS

## Prejudiced for free speech

Would the nation please kindly shut up? Not permanently, of course, but until I have had my say on the Beaconsfield affair, which is still echoing up and down the land, not to say the letters columns. For if the nation will listen to me, it will find that no more comment is needed, so cogent and comprehensive will be my discussion.

When Derek Beacocks won a by-election council seat in the Millwall Dock division of London by seven votes (there's glory for you), it seemed to me that half the nation had gone collectively mad doing nothing but crossing its eyes and praising the *arc-en-ciel*, while the other half was in catatonic shock and showing little or no sign of coming out of it. But in both cases the fundamental trouble was that the nation was not as old as I am. If it had been, it would hardly have bothered to glance at the lurid headlines which, day after day, were suggesting that the tramp of the jackboot would soon be heard in every street, because if the nation had consisted of greybeards like me, it would have dismissed such nonsense immediately, having seen it all before.

Do even more than a handful of my readers recognise the name of Oswald Mosley? And do those really know who he was and what he did? He died in 1980, but he was a forgotten figure long before his death, and for those who answered "No" I must first tell them; he was Britain's leading fascist. (There's glory for you!) Before the second world war there were a few groupuscules who professed fascism, having been inspired first by Mussolini (Oh, good grief, do you younger readers know who he was?) and then by Hitler.

Few of these had more than a handful of acolytes, and most were convinced that the chief rabbi was nightly climbing down their chimneys to circumscribe their children. (Boys only, of course.) But one had something of a real organisation, and a real following, and that was the one that Oswald Mosley created and led. He had been a rising star in politics — he had been both a Conservative and Labour MP — and wanted political power, but he was far too impatient to wait, and anyway the established parties had run him, correctly, as a man with no principles. So he thought he would try fascism: his gang wore black shirts to denote their allegiance, and thus was born the British Union of

The Millwall by-election has produced a threat to freedom, not from the ridiculous winner, but the would-be anti-racists

Fascists and National Socialists (THERE'S glory for you).

They were never anywhere near power: Mosley's followers were almost all what today would be called elderly skinheads, with some real thugs in the vanguard, but their numbers could not have exceeded a few thousand. Though he would never have lived there, he made the East End of London his punching-ground; the combination of poverty and Jews looked the best bet. Mosley himself was a very effective speaker, almost an orator, and he was very rich; without both of those props, his ranks would have thinned out to nothing very quickly.

His marches were designed to make trouble; I can remember hearing the BUF's marching chant: "The yids, the yids, we gotta get rid of the yids." Mosley, seeking a hero more substantial than Mussolini, favoured Hitler; the Führer blessed his wedding, which took place in Nazi Germany, and Hitler gave the happy pair a present: a silver-framed photograph of himself, the generous fellow.

Then Mosley overdid it. There was a BUF meeting at Olympia; hecklers, and indeed many who had said and done nothing, were very badly beaten up by Mosley's thugs, and the steam went out of his campaign. There was legislation prohibiting uniforms for political activities, and out of their black shirts the Blackshirts were seen to be a rabble of booby brutes unlikely to be able to spell fascism. (That was not just a jeer: I also remember brick walls adorned with the slogan "Support fascism".)

But the war was coming. The war, according to Mosley, was a Jewish conspiracy, but it finished him off long before it broke out. He was interned throughout most of the war, and tried a comeback after it, but there was nothing left he stood for Parliament, getting only a handful of votes. (Unable to believe that the British people did not love him,

he claimed that the ballot-boxes had been tampered with.) He left Britain for France, and lived there for the rest of his life. His widow is still alive, in her nineties, possibly still admiring Hitler.

Now, then, what is the purpose of this extraneous but apparently irrelevant lecture on brewer politics? It is this: if a vasty rich man, who can hold a huge audience with an hour-long speech delivered extempore, and who has something like a private army at his back, and who is on very good terms with a great number of Britain's aristocracy, and who lives in a culture that is shot through with anti-Semitism, and who admires Hitler much more than he does any British politician, and who would quite certainly, despite his repeated denials, have rejoiced in Britain's defeat if Hitler had been victorious, and would have looked (not in vain) for a high

post in Occupied Britain — well, if such a man cannot even cause the smallest ripple to disturb the even tenor of British politics, much less take the country over; what chance has a dreary, ignorant, sour, incoherent, almost pitiable little man who got a few hundred votes from a blithering gull and hopeless electorate in a rottenly run local authority and who has never been heard of since, and seems to be proud of it — what hopes can he have for the great and glorious political future he dreams of, based on nothing more significant in the way of a policy than getting hold of all the people who have complexions darker than his and throwing them out of the country? (Well, Bertie Grant, who is sufficiently dark of hue, seems to be willing to go, though only if he is paid to do so.)

No chance. But that does not conclude the story; there is the matter of the offending leaflet to be considered, and that story is rather more disturbing than that of a silly man who thinks he is a politician. Two features in it, particularly, have caused the trouble. The first is

based on the charge (I assume that it is correct, because otherwise there would have been an immediate disclaimer from the local authority) that the local council had allocated £30,000 of ratepayers' money to help with flood problems in Bangladesh.

The other, similar, was based on an allocation from the same council of £175,000 for the Bangladesh Youth Movement. The objections to the first slice of largess were that, however sad are the problems of Bangladesh, the people of Tower Hamlets have their own problems, particularly in the field of homelessness. The objections to the huge sum going to the local Bangladesh Youth Movement were similar. The leaflet pointed, sharply, to the items from their rates which they felt could do more good in helping the people of the area. The objections, then, objected, and were accused of fomenting racial hatred.

Something has gone seriously wrong. If residents' money is used by the council, not for local people but for people abroad, and some of the residents object to such allocations, to be called "racist" is so grossly defamatory — it was repeatedly denounced in such terms — that I urge the publishers of the leaflet to sue for libel. (As for Paddy Ashdown, he managed to be craven and disingenuous at the same time.)

Years ago, there were far-sighted people, and I was one of them, who believed that racial conflict would be worse, not better, if laws were passed to restrict what could and could not be said. But however far-sighted I was, there were others who were even more so; I could not believe, though they could and did, that there would grow, steadily, from one end of the land to the other, what has now come to be called "the race-relations industry", a gigantic milk-cow with limitless quango funds, a vast proportion of which in practice achieves, with the very best of intentions mind you, quantities of mutual racial hatred.

It is no use turning the clock back. The voters of Tower Hamlets, who voted for the wretched Mr Beacocks, made a protest which will be ignored. The rulers of Tower Hamlets will continue to waste money that is not theirs to waste. But free speech has been, not substantially but significantly, limited. That, not the ridiculous Beacocks, is the true meaning of the Millwall by-election.

Bernard Levin

## Et tu, Kenneth?

IT WAS a stalwart display of loyalty, but Kenneth Clarke really speaking truthfully when he described John Major yesterday as "one of my colleagues" I would turn my back on in the dark? For the knives are out in Blackpool's Imperial Hotel where senior Tories seem to be more concerned with covering their backs than exposing them.

The hotel, in conjunction with a local jeweller, has given 60 senior delegates to the Tory conference commemorative knives individually engraved with their names. All cabinet ministers have one of the pieces of cutlery, which have silver-plated handles and stainless steel blades engraved by Peter Jackson, the jeweller.

John and Norma Major each received a special edition of the knives, however. Theirs were of pure silver and presented in a blue leather box. Jackson says: "We've had a lot of comments about the knives the way things have been going at the conference, but they are just a goodwill gesture. We discussed all the protocol with Central Office, right down to the initials before and after the names."

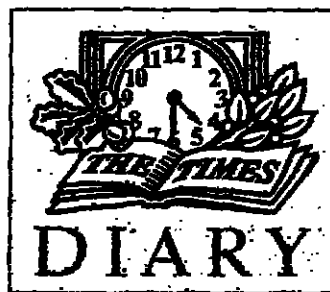
The trend started two years ago, when the Imperial gave delegates

some fancy ballpoint pens. The knives were reportedly well received at a conference at which backstabbing had been one of the highlights, but John Major cannot afford to relax. For when she left Blackpool yesterday, Baroness Thatcher took hers away in her handbag.

Where did John Patten's viriolic condemnation of this week of Birmingham's chief education officer as a "madman" and a "nutcase" emerge from? Could the explanation be found in this week's *Spectator*? He writes that, while convalescing in France this summer, he was accused by a man shouting: "John Patten, you've ruined our schools. I'm glad you are ill. I wish you was dead." Patten's blood boiled. He says: "His resentment rekindled mine. I had to... restore a hard edge to the way we think."

Stravinsky scores

NEXT week, St John's church in London's Shoreditch Square will host what is probably the first recital of Igor Stravinsky's entire piano pieces. The pianist, Victor Sangiorgio, known for his performances with the Hallé, believes it



No 9 Tregunter Road, is a masterpiece of extravagance, with a landscaped garden and underground swimming pool. The roomy residence will be the new home of Thailand's ambassador to London.

Arch angel

KENNETH Clarke's pugnacious performance on the platform at Blackpool was typical of his burly approach to politics. But could one detect the hand of Lord Archer, the novelist, in some of the fiercer moments?

On the eve of Clarke's robust delivery, Archer was seen at the lecture in the Winter Gardens conference centre. Intriguingly, the Chancellor in the art of the Autocue. He was assisted in his task by Gyles Brandstetter, the MP for Chester and former breakfast-time television presenter.

Archer's timely arrival was taken by some at Blackpool to be an unusually philanthropic gesture. But since the noble lord claims to be a great chum of both John Major and Lady Thatcher, why should he not befriend the man tipped as the Tories' next leader?

No sooner has the prime minister ruled out a return to the exchange-rate mechanism and dismissed monetary union as "unrealistic" than delegates notice



that the European Community's 12-star flag, a mainstay of previous Tory defeat, is missing from the platform. As Lord Tebbit might have put it: "They're playing any game."

Over and out

THE CAMPAIGN to save Shirley Foster's LBC radio received a curt reply when it asked London council leaders to lobby Lord Chalfont, chairman of the Radio Authority, to restore its franchise.

Richmond's leader David Williams, describing himself as a "frequent listener, wrote stiffly: "In the normal run of things I would have been happy to write a letter of support as requested, but not after hearing Sirben Heffer on Richard Littlejohn's programme on Sep-

tember 17. Sirben Heffer said something to the effect that large numbers of local councils are corrupt and that councils are run by spivs."

"I find remarks like this personally very offensive. I realise that LBC gets all sorts of bigots airing their prejudices, but Sirben Heffer is invited in every Friday, and Richard Littlejohn at his worst is not much different." Just as well he didn't write to Lord Chalfont.

No more redeye

BRIAN Redhead's last Tory conference draws to a close today — a historic occasion, marked on this morning's *Today* programme by reminiscences between Redhead and the Press Association's veteran political editor Chris Moncrieff, who also retires next year.

Surprisingly, perhaps, Redhead says one of the aspects of conferences he has most enjoyed is the opportunity they provide for getting to know politicians. "They have an element of the sporting event and you get to know the players. And I like politicians — I always have — they maintain a youthful enthusiasm for their profession."

Just like Redhead really, who retired from *Today* next April after 19 years and reported his first Tory conference in 1954.

## High price to pay for more taxes

The Chancellor must cut spending, says Norman Lamont

The 1980s was a golden decade. There were times when the government encountered great unpopularity. And there were often times when it was blown off course. But we always knew where we wanted to go.

If the government decides that further action should be taken to reduce the deficit, I believe it should now look to public spending rather than to taxes. The first reason is economic. A billion pounds off spending is worth more than a billion pounds on taxes. Further substantial tax rises would retard recovery, slow growth, abort job creation, penalise success and stifle endeavour. Second, we are the party of low taxes. It is precisely because I raised taxes by so much that I believe that any further contribution should come from cuts in public spending. Of course, this year's remit is tight but only for those accustomed to large increases in spending year after year. Those years are over.

But just sticking to previously announced spending increases, as we are this year, means only that public spending will not make the deficit worse. This might be credible for a government whose priority is to protect public spending at the cost of raising taxes. It will not do for a tax-cutting party.

The third reason for cutting spending is that public satisfaction — or rather dissatisfaction — with public services bears little relation to how much money is spent. Polls show continued dissatisfaction and large majorities wanting ever higher spending. Parity, this is because increased spending has not resulted in improvements in output and services.

Public spending has increased, after inflation, by £30 billion over the past four years. Four areas have seen rises totalling just over £19 billion: social security up £8.5 billion; health, up £3.8 billion; education, up £2.9 billion; and Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, up £3.9 billion. Together with the English local authorities, these are the citadels of the Welfare State. Cutting public spending means reduced funding in these areas. Our reforms of the public services are designed to get better value for money. The public sector should not shrink the difficult decisions that businesses up and down the country have had to take.

The NHS has been a priority area for spending for all the time we have been in office; since 1979 its budget has grown twice as fast as the economy as a whole. The problem is that although there have been productivity gains within the NHS, these have been absorbed by higher pay — denying the benefits to either the taxpayer or the patient.

The NHS reforms provide a basis for securing improvements in the service's performance. The most difficult part of the reforms was selling them to an institution which had not changed for 40 years. The rising number of GP fundholders and hospital trusts shows what progress has been made.

These reforms need to deliver results. A map of hospital locations still resembles where people lived at the end of the second world war. We have built hospitals in areas people have moved to. But we have been slow to phase out those in areas which have seen large declines.

In education, our reforms have cost a great deal of money as we move the system on to a new basis and introduce the national curriculum. So part of the requirement for increased funding is of a temporary nature. There has been extra money for opened-up schools to implement local management, but we also continue to fund local education authorities, many of whose functions are being transferred. We expect them to wither on the vine, but there is little sign of that happening yet.

Social security has the largest budget, amounting to nearly one-third of all public spending. A recent study by Peter Lilley showed that on unchanged policies, social security will grow faster than the economy as a whole for the rest of the century, as it has done throughout the 1980s. This growth is not sustainable.

We have carried out important reforms of the system — particularly in the field of earnings-related pensions. But we have also added to the burden. The number of people claiming invalidity benefit has more than doubled to £5.1 billion a year. Earnings-related invalidity benefit did not exist when we were first elected. It now costs about £1 billion a year.

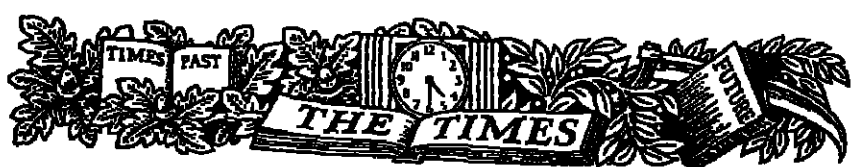
There are plenty of areas in which savings can be made. Give people the opportunity to contract out of the basic state pension; make employers insure employees against industrial injuries; equalise the state pension age for both men and women at 65, and eventually 67; and phase out the earnings-related element of invalidity benefit.

The real question is not how we can cut — but how we can afford not to cut. The great divide in British politics is still between those who believe that "Big Government" will solve the country's problems — and those who believe Big Government is part of the problem: between those who believe that Britain is under-governed and those who believe we are over-governed.

Conservatives talk a lot about reducing what the government does — but are we up to it when it comes to the test? We know that governments do best when they do less. We are faced with a choice that will tell the world what we really believe. Now is the time to act on spending. This article is extracted from a speech to the Bow Group yesterday.

سكرايت الاصل





## I SEE NO ENEMY

The Tories have given John Major a good chance to shine

As Lord Nelson once told his sailors: "You must consider every man your enemy who speaks ill of your king." Kenneth Clarke's remarks yesterday that "any enemy of John Major is an enemy of mine and any enemy of John Major is an enemy of the Conservative party" came from a long-remembered Tory manual. The Tory troops of Blackpool, already drummed for days with the message that England expected them to do their duty, reacted enthusiastically to a new Nelsonian line. Those who sensed that they were looking at the scene with their blind eye, that the reality was wholly different from the image, kept their thoughts to themselves.

This time last year, a Tory conference tried mutiny for the first time in over a decade. It was a heady occasion for activists more used to walking several steps behind their masters. But their rebellion was blamed for badly damaging the party. Shaken perhaps by their use of power and the parlous state of the prime minister's fortunes, they have restrained themselves this year. For that, John Major has cause to be grateful.

The show of unity was partly stage-managed by conference organisers. But there was a genuine desire too among party members to make this conference an easier one for the party leader. After the terrible trials of the past year — "blood, sweat and tears might be an understatement," said Mr Clarke in another echo of greater days — one more rebellious party conference could have ended Mr Major's career.

No wing of the party yet wishes this outcome. Although the prime minister's performance has not massively improved, those who merely want him replaced by someone more competent would prefer him to stay another year. They know that the party will do badly in next year's European and local elections; better that he should take the blame. A new leader, possibly Mr Clarke, could then stage a political recovery on the back of an economic upturn.

Representatives of the right were until

recently the keenest assassins. But the harder they looked at Mr Clarke as the alternative, the more nervous they became. Michael Portillo needed at least another year to gain more experience. This week the right seized a different opportunity — to pursue their own policy ends. All week, left-wing ministers have been trying to placate the right. Michael Howard and Peter Lilley successfully pursued populist themes in the hall. On the quieter fringe, Mr Lilley told his audience that "the tide of ideas is flowing our way", and Mr Portillo joined the flow.

On social policy, the right has forged an alliance with "moral majority" moderates such as John Gummer and David Hunt to promote its agenda of changing the benefit and housing systems to endorse family values. None of the three most senior men in the cabinet — the prime minister, the Chancellor and the foreign secretary — is a natural supporter of these moves. But they have done nothing to stop it.

Mr Major has been treated gently by his critics this week. Norman Lamont preferred a thoughtful call for spending cuts to the coup de grace that had seemed possible earlier in the summer. Although the mother of all "bastards" stole two days' media coverage when her disparaging remarks about her successor were printed in the *Daily Mirror*, Lady Thatcher's impact on the conference itself was more muted.

Most useful to Mr Major was the uncharacteristically quiet performance of Mr Clarke yesterday. Aside from the homage to bygone leaders, the speech was bland, leadenly delivered and confined to his economic brief. Perhaps Mr Clarke calculated that blatant ambition would damage his chances. Although today the Tory conference will give its leader a standing ovation, many of those with stinging palms, hoarse voices and ears full of borrowed thoughts will still be wondering whether another man should be making the leader's speech at this time next year.

## CLINTON'S CHOICE

The president cannot leave hard decisions to committees

News pictures showing the corpses of United Nations peacekeepers being trampled by jubilant, blood-hungry mobs of the people they are there to protect would have been almost unthinkable only a few years ago. A key part of traditional UN peacekeeping has been the acceptance by all sides that the "blue berets" are not legitimate targets.

In the latest bloodshed in Somalia, nearly all the UN dead are Americans. That compounds the temptation, above all in Washington, to conclude that something must be gravely wrong with this UN operation. Videotape of an American pilot held hostage recalls President Saddam Hussein's propaganda war. Now, as then, America's response must be resolute.

When his gunmen ambushed and killed 24 Pakistani UN troops last June, General Aidede, the Somali warlord who controls southern Mogadishu, broke a taboo. Hunted since then by the UN, he seeks to force a UN retreat by turning the few square miles of Somalia he controls into a killing field. Like Saddam, General Aidede claims that his enemy is not the UN but "US colonialism". His real enemy is peace, which would destroy his power. The failures of repeated UN efforts, some of them spectacularly bungled, to capture the general should not obscure the vital importance for UN peacekeeping — and for future peace enforcement under whatever banner — of bringing to book those who turn the guns of war against the forces of peace. That is the context in which the UN's much criticised "obsession" with General Aidede should be seen.

President Clinton's commitment of American troops to Unosom, the UN Operation in Somalia, was already under domestic political fire before last Sunday. Congressional demands to withdraw US troops now have a near-hysterical pitch. A faction led by Senator Bob Dole contemptuously rejects any case for sacrificing American lives "on the altar of some fuzzy multilateralism".

Such cynicism neglects both America's vital interest in world order and the value to America of multilateral co-operation in securing it. But there is no escaping the UN's faulty intelligence and military chaos last weekend; and in attacking "the confusion over US objectives", Mr Dole hits a nerve.

Only last week, Mr Clinton appeared to favour the speedy withdrawal of US troops. This week, he rightly insisted that America must show "firmness and steadiness of purpose" in accomplishing its mission, which he defined as preventing Somalia's reversion to the anarchy and famine that had prompted America's original humanitarian intervention. Yet after promptly deploying 650 extra troops with armour and air support, America's commander-in-chief appeared yesterday to be bending before the gale-force winds in Congress. He humbly submitted his plans to field a further 5,300 troops to a group of Congressmen — plans his spokesman even described as "no more than a point of view".

The UN, and America, need to clarify what they mean by "a secure environment" in Somalia, chart a course to political reconciliation (in which General Aidede can have no part) and act on it pragmatically. But the lesson of Somalia is not that the US president can or should abdicate from crisis management. What if Mr Clinton were similarly to duck his responsibility to give the order when it comes to a Nato force for Bosnia?

There will be other Somalias; and the response to them by the world's leading power cannot be decided by committee. Despite his domestic preoccupations, Mr Clinton's heart lies in defending America's global interest in stability. His head has yet to hone that perception into a coherent set of strategies. This is not the first case of confusion about who runs American foreign policy; but Mr Clinton's apparent readiness to dilute presidential control of military decisions is the most worrying.

## END OF AN ERSATZ CULT

Lenin should at last be laid to rest, with his false gods

The guards are gone from the mausoleum, their goose-stepping homage abruptly cancelled. Shorn of the stony custodians who for 70 years have guarded the entrance, the tomb is locked, the mummified corpse inside no longer exposed to the awe-struck millions. Lenin is still in Red Square, but not for long. Like Stalin, he may one night be quietly taken from his bier and interred — perhaps even after his own wish, to rest beside his mother in St Petersburg.

His interment would complete the political burial of communism in Russia. For almost three generations, the dead Lenin served as a totem of the system he imposed on his country. Despite — or because of — communism's virulent atheism, his body rapidly became an object of veneration, the replacement for the reliquaries of saints and the focal point for Russia's deep, frustrated, religious feeling. For the true believers, Lenin never died: "Lenin lived, Lenin lives, Lenin will live," thundered the poet Mayakovsky, and the creed was soon plastered on every poster, emblazoned in huge letters on Moscow's tallest buildings.

The collapse of communism did not immediately bring down its chief apostle. Little

by little, Lenin's name and face were removed from public life: banners were folded, old paintings tossed into skips, street names reverted to their old appellations. There was anguished debate about Leningrad. Many non-communists argued that the name was now so bound up with Soviet history, especially the wartime blockade, that to change it was to copy the communist trick of rewriting history. But the emotional pull of St Petersburg won. In the end, only the mausoleum was left, and a few giant statues.

Like so much else in communism, it was all a fake. No one really knew whether the body was fully authentic: the waxy pallor and the frequent closing of the mausoleum for "repairs" lent credence to the rumours that little of the mortal remains is left. Lenin's brain was long ago removed, and sliced, in deepest secrecy, into thin segments so that Soviet scientists could objectively prove the evidence of his genius: a ghoulish and probably futile investigation. Now at last Russians have cast off this ersatz cult, and have restored the Russian Orthodox Church, with its genuine and unchanging ritual, to a central place in public and private life. Lenin lived. He lives no longer.

## Immigrants who want to go home

From Dr David Coleman

Sir, We should not rush to condemn the proposal on assisted return made by Mr Bertie Grant, MP (report, October 6). It reminds us that a majority of the ethnic minority population in Britain was born overseas, including most adults and heads of household in that population. Their experiences and commitments are often quite different from those of their children born in Britain. Clearly some will have had unsatisfactory experiences of life here.

It is not reasonable to expect all immigrants to have an unqualified commitment to the country they have chosen to move to. Most immigrant citizens who have acquired British nationality retain dual nationality. They, and the 300,000 or so who have not taken British nationality at all, have thereby kept the right of entry to their countries of origin.

A scheme to help immigrants who were dissatisfied with their life in Britain has existed since the 1971 Immigration Act, although it receives no publicity and is little used. As Mr Grant states, this has been a taboo subject for many years. But substantial programmes to help those who wish to return to their countries of origin have been well developed in Belgium, The Netherlands, France and other continental European countries for many years, without causing uproar or oppression.

If handled sensitively such programmes are surely an aid to better race relations, not the reverse, and in no way need they compromise continued efforts to secure equality of opportunity. Return migration is not a dirty word, but the aspiration of many immigrants.

We will in any case need to face this issue in a different, harder context: that of encouraging the return of unsuccessful asylum claimants. Less than one in ten asylum claimants are recognised as genuine refugees. Yet almost all those who are refused this status nonetheless stay in Britain, some without permission, some with "exceptional leave to remain". There were 44,000 such claimants in 1991 and 25,000 in 1992, not including their dependants.

In Western Europe in 1992 there were 680,000 asylum claimants, most of them unsuccessful but most of whom are believed to remain regardless, some on a "humanitarian" basis, some as temporary visitors, others illegally. All European countries are looking for ways to secure the return of unsuccessful asylum claimants. Finding ways to do so is not an impediment to effective race relations but a prerequisite.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID COLEMAN,  
University of Oxford,  
Department of Applied Social Studies and Social Research,  
Barnett House,  
Wellington Square, Oxford.

## Trampled mice

From Mr Patrick Roper

Sir, Mr B. H. Parker (letter, September 28) quite understandably questioned the probability of wild boar once keeping the numbers of mice in our forests down solely through their trampling activities.

They were simply one of the factors, and ground nests of small animals were at risk from their rooting and omnivorous habits just as much as from trampling.

In the case of the Wild Service Tree, the fruit are very attractive both to mice and to wild boar and mice had little chance under a tree when the boar had arrived first. The rooting and trampling inevitably buried some of the seed in places where it could safely germinate the following spring or later (today it is either devoured on the tree or as soon as it falls to the ground).

This, coupled with the fact that small, fruit-eating animals and birds had many more predators to contend with in times gone by and were therefore fewer, was an important factor in ensuring the regeneration of the Wild Service from seed in sufficient numbers to sustain a viable natural population.

Yours sincerely,  
PATRICK ROOPER,  
South View, Sedlescombe,  
Battle, East Sussex.  
October 1.

## Articled clerks' pay

From Mr Roger Jones

Sir, Mr Mitchell (letter, September 27) claims that the decision of the Council of the Law Society to retain the minimum salary for trainees is causing a great number of solicitors to decide that it is uneconomic for them to take on a trainee solicitor (as articled clerks are now called).

However, the council was not convinced that to scrap the minimum levels (which at £12,150 for inner London and £10,850 for the rest of the country are modest for those who have undergone at least four years' previous training) would create more training places.

The council also felt that to abolish the compulsory minimum salary would diminish the attraction of law as a career just at a time when it seems the economy and the need for legal services are on the upturn. The need to ensure trainees receive a living wage

## Disruption in local government

From the Earl of Malmesbury

Sir, I read with surprise and concern John Gummer's statement (report, October 1, earlier editions) about the speed-up of the local government review, and in particular the increasing emphasis placed on the benefits of replacing the two-tier system of counties and districts with single-tier, unitary authorities.

The Hampshire review started three days before Mr Gummer's announcement. Although the prospect of another period of change and disruption for local government had dismayed me from the outset, I had been to some measure reassured by the government's statements that change would be based on the people's wishes, and that these would be ascertained by the Local Government Commissioners.

Many people in Hampshire, I believe, share my view that we need an improvement of the existing structure, not radical change. If we are to be told that this view is wrong even before we have the chance to express it, then what has happened to our freedom of choice?

My family has been associated with Hampshire for eight generations.

## Tory leadership

From Mr Victor Black

Sir, Simon Jenkins in his timely article (October 6) on Mr Major's popularity ends with the injunction to "ignore the polls... and get on with his job".

With a majority of 100 this cry for strong leadership would be justified. But in the present Parliament, where a handful of rebels, on any subject, can threaten a crisis or even a general election, a much more flexible and enigmatic management style is needed, and he is providing just that.

Yours faithfully,  
VICTOR BLACK,  
Lower Farm House,  
Coln Rogers, Gloucestershire.  
October 6.

From Mr George Curtis

Sir, Prime ministers who take the electorate with them tend to get elected. Those who treat it with the contempt exhibited by Mr Major, first in the matter of the ERM and secondly over Maastricht, and who compound their offence by being too petty to apologise for their mistakes, which have cost millions of his fellow citizens dearly, get what they deserve: dismissal by the electorate.

Yours faithfully,  
GEORGE CURTIS,  
Dalebrook House,  
Dedham, Colchester, Essex.  
October 6.

From Sir John Herbecq

Sir, Mrs Patricia Ducé (letter, October 4) points to Mr Major's "cold, clear-

When I became lord lieutenant of the county it was with the knowledge that my great-great-grandfather had held the position before me, despite being warned by Brownlow North, the then Bishop of Winchester, that "local politics resemble too much the game of snapdragon; one is apt to get one's fingers burned".

I have seen and admired the work of both tiers of local government in the county, the commitment of councillors and the professionalism of officers. Both tiers contribute to the quality of life in the county and both are needed.

We cannot afford to lose the strategic overview that has enabled county councils to achieve so much for the people they serve, and we cannot afford to jeopardise the specialist services, which could not be economically and efficiently run by smaller authorities.

Without our county archive service, I should have been quite unaware of the bishop's advice to my ancestor.

Yours faithfully,  
MALMESBURY  
(Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire,  
1973-82),  
The Coach House, Greywell Hill,  
Basingstoke, Hampshire.

eyed calculation of the British interest" at last year's party conference. It may be of some comfort to her that no minister addressing a party conference would find it necessary to declare that Britain's interest would for him come first, last and always if he were not aware of a substantial body of evidence suggesting otherwise.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN HERBECQ,  
Maryland, Ledgers Meadow,  
Cuckfield, Haywards Heath, Sussex.  
October 4.

From Mr Michael Romain

Sir, Writing in his memoirs of people's amazement that a political figure can speak without notes (letters, October 1, 2, 6) for 40 minutes, Richard Nixon comments that "afterwards, they congratulate me as if I had just announced a cure for some major disease".

Mr Major would do well to take note.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL ROMAIN,  
10 Denning Road, Hampstead, NW3.  
October 6.

From Mr Barry Jackson

Sir, Your TV listings yesterday included at 10.35am on BBC1 *Conservatives Live*. I was delighted by the assertion but remain unconvinced.

Yours faithfully,  
BARRY JACKSON,  
La Roche, Farm Lane,  
Send, Surrey.  
October 6.

in paralysis and ensure John Major's early exit from No 10. If he cannot keep his own promises, then he should go. He would have no one to blame but himself.

Yours faithfully,  
STEPHEN HILL  
(Managing Director),  
Lica Capital Development Ltd,  
102 Jermyn Street, SW1.

From Mr Brian Cole

Sir, The Chancellor has hinted heavily (report, September 29) that tax should be levied on spending rather than earnings. It seems to me to be perfectly possible to pursue the principle of taxing expenditure without reducing the emphasis on direct taxation, which can be as progressive as the party in power wishes.

All that has to be done is to declare that savings can be deducted from income to arrive at taxable income. Savings should be defined widely, but evidence will be available for all types.

If we could also agree, with the French, that a household of four people living on one income should pay less tax than a household of one living on the same income, we should really be making progress towards a rational tax system.

Yours faithfully,  
BRIAN COLE,  
Drake Wood, Devonshire Avenue,  
Amersham, Buckinghamshire.  
October 1.

From Mrs Frances Lindsay

Sir, I must take issue with Mr Neil Buffin's smug argument (letter, October 1) that in setting a minimum salary for trainee solicitors the Law Society is establishing a profession open to all. If firms cannot afford to take on trainees, then the profession will not be open to more of them.

Having got myself through law school unsponsored (like the majority of law students, I depended on loans and help from my family) I am now told, with only days before starting my articles, that the firm cannot afford both the minimum salary and the other costs of training and will be unable to employ me. Frankly I would rather work for less, pay off some debt if possible and at least have the opportunity to qualify.

I remain, yours faithfully,  
FRANCES LINDSAY,  
74 Altwood Road,  
Maidenhead, Berkshire.  
October 1.

## Unhappy plight of trans-sexuals

From Mr Alex Carille, QC, MP for Montgomery (Liberal Democrat), and others

Sir, We write out of concern for the individual liberties of trans-sexuals. We believe that they are a misunderstood and maligned minority. Most live responsible and law-abiding lives, have lasting and stable relationships, and make a strong contribution to the community.

Daily, however, they face the problem of not being allowed by the present state of British law to live in their acquired gender. The law requires them to be labelled as freaks throughout their remaining lifetime, despite the fact that there is now clear and respected medical evidence that transsexualism arises from biological and physiological causes.

In the cases of Rees (1986) and Cossey (1990) the European Court of Human Rights recommended the need for appropriate legal measures to be kept under review, having regard particularly to scientific and societal developments. In September 1989 the European Parliament passed a resolution which called on member states to grant legal recognition to trans-sexuals. In April 1993 calls for more humane laws were made at a Council of Europe colloquy, "Transsexualism, Medicine and the Law".

Some countries within and outside Europe have already made changes. Germany has a successful model for scrutinising the trans-sexual process in individual cases, and allowing full individual liberties where appropriate. Within the common law jurisdiction, South Australia has enlightened laws on the subject.

After the Cossey judgment your then religious affairs correspondent suggested (September 29, 1990) that neither the Church nor the government should be satisfied to leave things as they then were. That well-justified statement has gone unheeded for too long.

Yours faithfully,  
ALEX CARILLE (Liberal Democrat),  
JERRY HAYES (Conservative),  
LYNNE JONES (Labour),  
House of Commons.  
October 1.

## Spirit of the novel

From Ms Janice Elliott

Sir, Daniel Johnson ("At last! A book about us", October 1) is not the first commentator to complain recently that British novelists today are seeking subjects other than the current scene in Britain.

He is right in his remark, though not in his complaint. Novelists are sometimes, but not essentially, social historians. They write about subjects that inspire the creative imagination.

It is not a perverse fashion that drives them to landscapes more interesting than the lives of the educated middle classes. Indeed, any woman tackling this area is in danger of criticism for writing domestic, "Hamstead" novels.

If many are writing about the past, that is something to thank them for, since novelists, even before historians, are the "rememberers". If some choose to explore the bizarre or to make use of so-called magic realism, those are simply ways of bringing a fresh, though not new, vision to reality that can sharpen their examination of the human condition. They are in honourable company with Márquez, Saramago and Allende.

Novelists (and poets) can only be true to themselves. They are neither sociologists nor followers of fashion. They write as they must. This is not a conspiracy.

Sincerely,  
JANICE ELLIOTT,  
Dolphin House, Trafalgar Square,  
Fowey, Cornwall.  
October 1.

## Prayers, not gifts

From Mrs Doreen Cuss

Sir, Rachel Kelly ("On the toast rack", October 4) questioning whether couples about to marry should issue wedding gift lists, prompted the thought: why presents at all?

Any announcement or invitation saying, "Prayers and good wishes but, please, no gifts", would take so much stress off the bridal couple as well as affectionate but poverty-stricken friends and relatives.

Yours faithfully,  
DOREEN CUSS,  
30 Alwyne Road, Wimbledon, SW19.

## Helping hand

From Mrs Elizabeth Moyse

Sir, Mrs Patricia Squires (letter, October 5) is dismayed to find that parents have to help expensively educated children fill in their university application forms.

A couple of weeks ago I would have agreed with her — that was before my expensively educated son put down his date of birth as 17.12.93.

Absent-mindedness is clearly education-resistant. I am afraid I intervened to protect our hard-earned investment.

Yours faithfully,  
ELIZABETH MOYSE,  
2 Herondale Avenue, SW18.







OBITUARIES

CYRIL CUSACK



Cyril James Cusack, actor, died yesterday in London aged 82. He was born in Durban, South Africa, on November 26, 1910.

CYRIL CUSACK was the leading Irish actor of his generation. From his film and television appearances he gained an international reputation but the stage was always his first love. His method was apparently relaxed and economical, and he had the Irish actor's skill of letting his voice do the work, securing an effect with what seemed to be the minimum of effort. From his overtly romantic days to the experienced stage veteran, his choice of favourite parts was eloquent — O'Casey's Copey (of the slow, waiting drawl) in *The Plough* and *The Star*, Sygne's Christy Mahon in *The Playboy of the Western World*, Romeo, Hamlet and much of Shaw.

As the dynastic head of a great theatrical family, he enjoyed appearing to rest on his famous daughters' laurels in later years. In fact, he continued acting to the end, mesmerising audiences with that brooding quality which he brought to every performance. His speciality was the permanently puzzled air, and slow bemused reaction, followed by a seemingly impetuous response. "His touch is light like a feather but it has the impact of an electric volt," said one critic of Cusack's performance, at the age of 78, in Gorky's *Lower Depths* at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin.

Cusack's Gaelic heritage was hugely important to him. He spoke and wrote the language fluently, believed in the continuity of the Irish Theatre and grieved for its decline. But his first years were spent in South Africa where his father was an Irish officer in the Natal Mounted Police. His parents' marriage broke down in 1916 and Cusack and his mother — an ex-chorus girl from London — sailed for Ireland. She subsequently joined forces with the handsome touring Irish actor Breñi O'Rourke (they never married) and the family formed a touring company. Cusack described his childhood as "a glorious adventure" and claimed to have attended nearly every school in Ireland.

He made his film debut at the age of seven in *Knocknagow*, in which he played a starving child during the

Irish famine (despite being a very plump little boy). Cusack had to sit by the roadside — unfortunately on a nodule patch — wolfing down butter-milk and soda bread provided by the while receiving fierce stings from the plants. From that moment he was hooked.

Few actors had a more thorough foundation in their craft. Playing in what were known as "sit-ups" — barns, village greens and pubs — his family had to up-sticks every week, driving from Tipperary, Kilkenny and Wicklow to Galway, Kilmarnock and Cork. One week, he might be playing a young girl (hidden behind a wig of blond plaits), the next the hind legs of the donkey in *All Baba and the Forty Thieves* or the cat in *Dick Whittington*.

At the age of 13 Cusack was sent to a permanent school in Newbridge, Kildare, run by Dominican monks

and finished his formal education at University College, Dublin, where he read Roman law, politics and history. In 1932 he joined the Abbey Theatre company in Dublin and appeared there in nearly seventy plays, mostly from the standard Irish repertoire — O'Casey, Yeats, Synge. During the 1935-36 season he directed the Gaelic Players and reached London as Richard in O'Neill's *Ah, Wilderness*. He returned triumphantly after three years, now as Christy Mahon in *The Playboy of the Western World*, a show-piece of the Irish stage which he had already played several times. His performance caused James Agate to say that no young actor living could express the "stray in Erris" speech so exquisitely.

By 1942 he had progressed so far as to find himself playing opposite the young Vivien Leigh as Dubedat in Irene Hentsch's *Haymarket* revival of Shaw's *The Doctor's Dilemma*.

Cusack's dismissal from the cast of this production led to his estrangement from the West End for twenty years.

The circumstances behind his sacking have been turned into one of the West End's most tenacious legends, and crop up in several, highly embellished versions. The truth was less dramatic. Having taken his understudy out for lunch to celebrate St Patrick's Day, Cusack returned to the theatre feeling unwell, after being served some extremely rough, illegally-distilled whiskey. When he made his first entrance in white tie and tails in the Richmond Hotel dinner-party scene he was still feeling frail, but in the next scene in the artist's studio, he rapidly deteriorated, misquoting and improvising his lines. Finally, when his mind had become a total blank, he decided to quote whole chunks from the only play he could easily remember — *The Playboy of the Western World*.

The inexperienced Vivien Leigh was thrown into a total panic by this unexpected turn of events, and began to fumble her own lines, all the while throwing desperate looks into the prompt corner. Eventually both were saved by the stage manager bringing the curtain down. The almost equally unwell understudy was then ordered to read his way through the remainder of the play. Both he and Cusack were given twenty minutes by their employer, the H. M. Tennent impresario "Binkie" Beaumont, the following morning.

Despite this, there was no question of Cusack being boycotted by the West End entirely — many managers made him good offers which he turned down. But Cusack had already decided to return to Ireland, preferring to be a star there than a supporting actor in London. He sank his savings into his own company, Cyril Cusack Productions, and over the following twenty years, wrote, directed and acted in countless plays, taking over the management of the Gaiety Theatre, which became his main Dublin stage, and encouraging young Irish playwrights. He managed and acted in Shaw seasons, and presented the first performance of O'Casey's late and Boucicault-influenced *The Bishop's Bonfire*, directed by Tyrone Guthrie, in 1955.

Occasionally he returned to England, finally joining the Royal Shake-

speare Company and being tempted back to the West End, exactly 20 years later, to play one of the three patients, Mobius, in Peter Brook's production of Dürrenmatt's *The Physicists* at the Aldwych (1963). Later that year, in Stratford, he made a sustained effort as a small, grey-haired Cassius in *Julius Caesar*, an ambitious intriguer with a quick, wiry, mocking voice. He went over to the National Theatre at the Old Vic for the part of Can in *Andorra* (1964), but did not return to London until 1968 when, as Conn in *The Shaughraun*, he dominated the Abbey revival of Boucicault's flamboyant melodrama for the World Theatre season. In 1977 he made his first appearance on the boards of the new National Theatre as Fluther Good, the carpenter, in *The Plough* and *The Stars*.

Cusack's passion for Chekhov remained undimmed. "The Russians in his plays are like the Irish — talkers and dreamers," he said. So it was not that when his third daughter, Niamh, decided to follow her elder sisters Sinead and Sorcha onto the stage, the family were united for a production of *The Three Sisters* (1990) at the Gate Theatre. Benedict Nightingale, writing in *The Times*, described Cyril Cusack's performance as "wonderfully idiosyncratic... When he is not in his cups, bleating and helplessly barking out self-accusations, he exudes a beatific bonhomie, not aimed at anyone in particular. He seems too vague to remember if he is anyone's dad."

Cusack accepted film work only intermittently when the part was right, or to finance the plays (he was afraid, he said, of becoming "the Hollywood Irishman"). Credits included *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold* (1965), *Gruntio* in *Zeffirelli's The Taming of the Shrew* (1967), *Callies* (1968), *The Day of the Jackal* (1973), *Albany* in Peter Brook's *King Lear* (1970) and the award-winning *My Left Foot* (1989). He also appeared regularly on television, was on the board of the Irish National Theatre and received several honorary doctorates.

His first wife, the actress Maureen Kieley, predeceased him. He is survived by his second wife Mary and their daughter, and by his three daughters and two sons from the first marriage.

VEN DAVID WALSER



The Ven David Walser, Archdeacon of Ely, 1981-93, died on October 1 aged 70. He was born on March 12, 1923.

DAVID WALSER had been a priest in the diocese of Ely for over 30 years. He served as chaplain of the King's School, Ely, from 1961-70, vicar of Linton from 1971-81, together with the smaller parish of Barlow from 1973, and was in addition rural dean of Linton from 1976-81. He was appointed Archdeacon of Ely in 1981 and remained in the post until his retirement earlier this year. He will be remembered as a gentle, humorous, kindly priest, who had a deep pastoral concern for all those with whom he came into contact.

After Claysmore School, to which he was devoted, and on whose governing body he served, he went into the Army at the end of the war. He delighted to tell people that he served as a captain in the Royal Indian Mounted Mountain Artillery. He also served in Burma, where he looked after Japanese prisoners of war.

After coming out of the Army he took a second in history at St Edmund Hall, Oxford, and trained for the priesthood at the Anglo-Catholic theological college of St Stephen's House, Oxford, to which after a curacy in Bristol he returned to serve as vice-principal from 1954-60.

As a result of his High Church background, he was always confident about the right way in which services should be conducted but tolerant and understanding of more informal ways. He was on terms of the warmest friendship with people of all church-styles or of none. Together with his wife Elizabeth, one of his Linton parishioners whom he married in 1975, he delighted in entertaining and making friends.

It helped probably that, for the first eight years of his tenure, his archdeaconry was

combined with the Cambridge living of St Botolph's — if only because it prevented him from being merely "the bishop's eye" on the Church. He was a popular archdeacon, threading his way with tact through the special problems caused in the Ely diocese by the number of presentations controlled by colleges (his own parish of St Botolph's was one such as was the neighbouring parish later added to it of St Clement's). No one could have been less of an Archdeacon Grantly, and Walser was as popular with the greater chapter of Ely Cathedral (of which he was an honorary canon) as he was with his fellow Cambridge clergy.

He was widely known beyond diocesan circles, both for his many links with the local community, especially with the Sunflower Nursery in Cambridge, the Cambridge-shire Community Council and the Old Schools of Cambridge, and with the wider church. He travelled often to the United States and to Canada, where he had been born. He was on the committee of the Anglo-Catholic Ordination Candidates Fund.

In the diocese, he was, among other things, vice-chairman of the Diocesan Board of Education, and president of the Old Choristers of Ely Cathedral. His wife survives him.

IVOR BULMER-THOMAS



Ivor Bulmer-Thomas, CBE, former Labour MP, junior minister and honorary director of the Friends of Friendless Churches, died yesterday aged 87. He was born on November 30, 1905.

PROVIDING, along with Harold Wilson, one of the last links with the formation of the Attlee Labour government in 1945, Ivor Bulmer-Thomas possessed intellectual fire-power equal to that of any of his generation. Classical scholar, journalist, author, member of Parliament, junior minister, ardent churchman and the custodian of many a church building (which, but for him, would have been doomed), he outstripped the majority of his contemporaries in versatility and talent. This was not an unusual experience for him: he had done the same when, as an Oxford athletics Blue, he raced

to victory against Cambridge in the three-mile varsity race of 1927.

From the start of his life — he was born in humble circumstances in Cwmbran, Monmouthshire — he had had to forge his own way. If in a worldly sense his achievements scarcely matched his gifts, the explanation could be found in his origins which may have fostered a certain prickliness.

Ivor Thomas, as he was known until 1952, was educated at the West Monmouth School, Pontypool, and it was in these rather unlikely surroundings that he deserted the Baptist faith of his fathers and converted to the Anglican faith of the Church of England. His conversion coloured his life at Oxford, where he won a scholarship to St John's and subsequently took a first in Mathematical Mods and then in Greats. He was awarded a Blue for cross-

country running, and a half-Blue for track running.

In 1930 he wrote a brisk and entertaining biography of the first Lord Birkenhead, whose constant interest in university athletics had brought the two men together. *Our Lord Birkenhead* is filled with Oxford wit of the 1920s and is dedicated characteristically to "my creditors". In the same year he joined the staff of *The Times* and became a valued member of the sub-editors' room, arriving just after Graham Greene had left; he also contributed occasional leaders and articles on scientific questions (as well as, later on, obituaries). In addition, he was for many years a reviewer for *The Times Literary Supplement*.

In 1935 he was allowed by *The Times* to take his holiday to coincide with the general election, and he contested Spen Valley as the Labour candidate. He was narrowly defeated by 600 votes — a

margin that yielded general pleasure as he was known to have given his opponent (the unpopular Sir John Simon) a bad fright. In 1937 he joined the *New Chronicle* as a leader writer. In the following year he published *Top Sawyer*, a biography of the great Welsh industrialist David Davies.

On the outbreak of war he joined the Royal Fusiliers in the ranks and was later commissioned into the Royal Norfolk Regiment. He then saw service with the psychological warfare department of the Foreign Office specialising in propaganda to Italy. In a Penguin entitled *Warfare in Words* (1942) he characteristically made what *The Times* called "a disarming, guarded, attack" on British propaganda — though his definition of propaganda as "sabotage leading to revolution" was not considered acceptable either by *The Times* or by officialdom.

Fortunately, his old political aspirations rode to his rescue. At a by-election in Kingley he was — under the wartime truce — elected unopposed at the beginning of 1942. At the general election of 1945 he was easily re-elected and was promoted to the front bench by Clement Attlee (though only after writing the prime minister a hurt letter enquiring why he had been overlooked). Attlee took pity on him and appointed him Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

It was typical of the earnestness with which Thomas at that stage took his political life that he had himself taught to fly, on the ground that he wished to know something of the difficulties which civil airline pilots faced. He had to steer the Civil Aviation bill through the Commons in 1946 — a highly controversial measure — and there was some dissatisfaction from his own side at the bill being left in the hands of a comparatively junior minister. At the end of 1946 he became Under-Secretary for the Colonies but after a year he was dropped from the government.

The reason for this rather summary treatment lay more perhaps with his growing disillusionment with socialism than in any imperfections in his work. To this disillusionment he gave forthright expression in a speech resigning from the Parliamentary Labour Party in October 1948 during the debate on the King's Speech. His announcement did not make him popular — indeed, in Parliament he became something of a pariah along with the two other disaffected former Labour MPs of the time, Alfred Edwards and Raymond Blackburn. Even the Conservatives did

not offer him much of a reward. He was chosen to fight the safe Labour seat of Newport in the 1950 general election and was crushingly defeated. His political career was over except for an interesting (though much criticised) book *The Growth of the British Party System* (1968).

If the State had let him down, there was always the Church. After a short period (1953-54) as deputy editor of *The Daily Telegraph* he enjoyed a distinguished, if noisy, career as a member of the Church Assembly to which he was elected in 1950. His interventions in debate were possibly too frequent but the

pungency and force of his mind were greatly appreciated. He had already discovered his interest in redundant churches and his attack on Archbishop Geoffrey Fisher who, he said, "held a pistol to my face while the Dean of Gloucester plunged his dagger into my back" provided his listeners with a rich mixture of shock and delight. His rather more indiscriminate assaults on "South Bank religion" tended, however, to grow tedious.

Although sometimes clouded by controversy his support for the care and preservation of church buildings — he was chairman of the

Redundant Churches Fund, of the Ancient Monuments Society and founder of the Friends of Friendless Churches — was his real life's work. Without his zeal, many more church buildings would undoubtedly have been left to become derelict ruins. The Redundant Churches Fund, of which Bulmer-Thomas remained chairman until 1976, now has more than 200 churches in its care and, though the Friends of Friendless Churches is a smaller organisation (sometimes, indeed, called "a one-man band") it can claim to have actively saved 17 churches and have helped to rescue many more. For his efforts he was appointed CBE in 1984.

He gave generously of his own resources and unstinting loyalty of his time and enthusiasm to all the causes in which he believed. For many years he conducted an "Advanced Sunday School" every Sunday at the city church of St Andrew-by-the-Wardrobe where he was still churchwarden at the time of his death. He remained a member of the General Synod until his 82nd year and his 80th birthday was marked by a *Festschrift* edited by the secretary of the Ancient Monuments Society. It paid full tribute to the diversity and catholicity of his interests — ranging from theology, through the stonemason's craft to the interpretation of Gothic architecture.

Ivor Bulmer-Thomas was twice married, his first wife, Dylis Llewellyn Jones dying in 1938 just six years after their marriage. He married, secondly, in 1940 Margaret Bulmer whose surname he added to his own by deed poll in 1952. She survives him together with a son of his first and a son and two daughters from the second.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

071-782 7344

COMPANY NOTICES

CANADIAN PACIFIC LIMITED  
ST. LAWRENCE & OTTAWA  
RAILWAY  
Notice is hereby given that the annual general meeting of the above company will be held at the offices of the company, 100 King Street West, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, on Friday, the 12th day of November, 1993, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon of that day for the purpose of receiving and considering the report of the directors and the auditors and for the election of directors and the passing of resolutions.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION  
Notice is hereby given that the annual general meeting of the above company will be held at the offices of the company, 100 King Street West, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, on Friday, the 12th day of November, 1993, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon of that day for the purpose of receiving and considering the report of the directors and the auditors and for the election of directors and the passing of resolutions.

LEGAL NOTICES

NO OF MATTER 198 of 1993  
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE  
CHANCERY DIVISION  
MANCHESTER  
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LEGAL NOTICES

THE INSURANCE COMPANIES ACT 1982  
THE CONTINENTAL INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED  
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THE PROMENADE CONCERTS

The last Promenade Concert of the season attracted to the Queen's Hall on Saturday night a large audience, many of whom were waiting in the street from early in the day. The final programme consisted of the usual popular ingredients. There was a Wagner Prelude, Mendelssohn's violin concerto, with Miss Seymour Whingates as soloist, "Schéhérazade," to show off the individual players in the orchestra, and Sir Henry Wood's Fantasia on British Sea-Songs, without which no Prom season can end, to set feet going in a hornpipe and voices singing.

ON THIS DAY

October 8 1928

Sir Henry Wood's last appearance at the Proms was in 1944 in the opening concert, but the season was abandoned because of the danger from flying bombs. He died in August of that year.

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to mark all nations  
have  
around the world  
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and recently  
gradually earlier  
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market has  
been cold  
of the world  
America  
but the main  
half the rate of  
recovery. The  
two  
The British



INFOTECH 32-34

Do the locomotion: training Chunnel train drivers

ARTS 35-37

Marvin Hamlisch: Mr Broadway gets serious

SPORT 39-44

Clement Freud on the charge of the heavy brigade

RESULTS OF LAW SOCIETY EXAMS  
Page 38, 39

# THE TIMES

2

FRIDAY OCTOBER 8 1993

BUSINESS EDITOR  
Robert Ballantyne

BUSINESS  
TODAY

LOAN SALE



Barclays is to be the first clearing bank to sell personal loans with a securitisation issue  
Page 25

RATING ROW

A row looms over splitting the stock market into 40 sectors and reclassifying firms  
Page 24, *Tempos* 27

GOOD STRIKE



Allied Leisure, the top bowling and nightclub group, sees better times ahead  
Page 24

LOAD SHED

British Aerospace has agreed to sell its Ballast Nedam contracting business to a Dutch dredger  
Page 24

THE POUND

US \$ 1.5212 (+0.0028)  
German mark 2.4707 (+0.0062)  
Exchange index 80.9 (same)  
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 3092.4 (-8.4)  
Dow Jones 3598.16 (-0.83)  
Nikkei Avg 20265.63 (-234.62)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 6%  
3-month Interbank 5 1/4%  
US Federal Funds 2 1/4%  
3-month Treas Bills 2.98-2.96%  
Long Bond 6.01%

CURRENCIES

New York: London: £\$ 1.5225 £\$ 1.5230  
\$DM 1.6229 \$DM 2.4719  
\$SWfr 1.4245 \$SWfr 2.1708  
\$Yfr 5.6790 \$Yfr 0.8510  
\$Yen 108.05 \$Yen 160.15  
\$SDR 1.0714 \$ECU 1.2973  
London Foreign market close

GOLD

London Fixing (\$): PM 357.30  
AM 356.90  
Close 357.00-357.80  
New York: 356.45-356.95  
Comex

RETAIL PRICES

RPI 141.3 August (1.7%)  
\* Denotes midday trading price



## Queen launches tanker

The Queen took time out from her holiday in Balmoral yesterday to name a £50 million chemical tanker that was built on the Clyde. However, she took two attempts to christen it (Gillian Bowditch writes). The 36,000-tonne, bright orange ship, the Jo Selje was built by Kvaerner Govan, the Norwegian-owned shipyard. It is the most advanced chemical carrier of its kind. The Queen, pictured talking with workers at the yard, failed at her first attempt to smash a bottle of champagne over the bows of the Selje. She was heard to ask "harder?" as the mechanism was retrieved for a second, successful attempt. The Queen said it was 28 years since she had last visited the Clyde. In fact, it is 38 years. The number of shipyards on the Upper Clyde has since fallen from about 13 to 2.

## City warns Clarke not to endanger recovery

By Patricia Tehan and Philip Bassett

THE City warned Kenneth Clarke not to jeopardise economic recovery, after the Chancellor told Conservatives at the party conference in Blackpool that next month's Budget would be tough.

Mr Clarke pledged to rein in public spending but warned that this might not be enough to put public finances into proper shape. He hinted again that he might have to look at further tax increases to reduce the burgeoning borrowing requirement.

Sudhir Junankar, deputy economic director at the Confederation of British Industry, said consumer confidence could be dented by further tax increases. Consumer demand, and recovery, could be slowed. "The Chancellor has not yet taken on board the tax increases announced in March," Mr Junankar said. "He is taking for granted the recovery that has already taken place. It is not wise to do that when considering whether further tax increases should be implemented or not."

Export demand had begun to show signs of weakness since the summer, and if the Chancellor were to consider further tax increases he would add to uncertainty on the consumer side. "Together, these two must carry a risk of slowing down recovery."

A spokesman for the Building Employers' Confederation said consumer confidence was vital to housebuilders. When

■ The Chancellor's threat of tax increases in next month's Budget brought strong warnings from the City and industry that he was putting the recovery in jeopardy

people were confident that they would hold their jobs and have money to spend, "they will buy houses and white goods for houses."

Kimlan Cook, stores analyst at NatWest Markets, said: "Given the proximity of the Budget to the crucial Christmas trading period, if the general public feels at all nervous about a squeeze on their purses it could not be good news for the retail sector."

She said economic recovery in the high street was not

expected to be huge, given that so many people had bigger mortgages than their houses were worth. "We have seen signs of encouragement from consumers but they are tentative and consumer confidence does remain fairly fragile," she said.

Analysts hope that the Chancellor will compensate for any tax rises with a cut in interest rates.

Speaking to journalists after addressing the Conservative conference, Mr Clarke said that while the recovery was

"real, it isn't very strong", though he said it was "perhaps" stronger than the government had thought it might be by this stage.

He insisted that a real recovery was taking place, but when questioned about its strength, admitted he was "concerned" about it.

Further evidence of the patchy state of the economic recovery came from the Central Statistical Office, which said its longer leading index, which indicates turning points in activity 13 months in advance, was showing a fall for the fourth month in a row.

The shorter leading index, which shows turning points five months in advance, is sustaining the rise that began last autumn. Gerald Holtham, chief economist at

Lehman Brothers, said a slowdown was possible next year, whatever measures Mr Clarke included in the Budget.

He said real disposable incomes would not be growing and tax rises were coming through next April. "It is not impossible for there to be continued growth in the near term and modest slowdown next year."

On the stock market, prices lost an early lead, but the absence of a politically inspired cut in interest rates to coincide with Mr Clarke's speech came as no surprise. Turnover in shares remained low and the FT-SE 100 index closed 8.4 points down at 3092.4.

Major boosted, page 1  
Stock market, page 26

## Truck sales soar before deadline

By Ross Tieman, Industrial Correspondent

SALES of new trucks in Britain soared 85 per cent in September as hauliers rushed to buy new vehicles before the introduction of tougher emissions standards on October 1.

Importers made big inroads into the UK market, capturing almost half of sales, as the boom got under way. In total, 5,059 new trucks over 3.5 tonnes were sold last month against just 2,738 in the same 30 days last year.

Although manufacturers now expect a quiet October, the surge comes amid signs of a steady upturn in sales of commercial vehicles, regarded within the industry as a good indicator of wider recovery.

In the first nine months of 1993, sales of all vehicles over 3.5 tonnes were 17.5 per cent

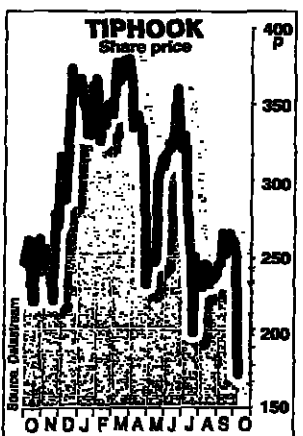
up on the same period of last year, at 27,451. But the van market, where small businesses account for a large slice of sales, remains depressed.

The increased penetration of imports has been exacerbated by the troubles at the British end of Leyland DAF, which went into receivership in January. But completion of buyouts at the van plant in Birmingham and the truck plant at Leyland, Lancashire, have helped a resurgence of sales.

Tony Pain, Leyland DAF Trucks' marketing manager, said lorries built in Britain and The Netherlands won 19 per cent of the market in the year to date. Trucks from Leyland gained more than a quarter of the total market for sub-15 tonne vehicles.

## Tiphook hit by third profit alert

By Martin Waller, Deputy City Editor



A DISASTROUS year for Tiphook, the accident-prone container leasing company, has been crowned by a third profit warning and share price collapse. Tiphook shares plunged by almost 40 per cent at one stage yesterday as the company announced that it would make a loss in the current half year.

Unlike the two previous warnings, the news did not make its way into the market first. The Stock Exchange is still investigating, at Tiphook's request, how price-

sensitive news apparently leaked out in the summer.

The shares stabilised to end down 70p, at 169p. Tiphook said that although it had looked for a small pre-tax profit in the half-year to end October, "a loss will be made". Market forecasts for the year, which were at upwards of £20 million pre-tax, exceeded internal forecasts, therefore.

The market took fright at the risk that the highly-borrowed group might be in breach of its banking covenants, which require debts not to exceed five

times shareholders' funds. The revised trading expectations, Tiphook said, had implications for some banking covenants, and appropriate facilities are being negotiated.

Because borrowings have exceeded the allowed level, a special meeting must permit this. Much of the equity is held by US investors nursing losses, and legal action of the kind that several British companies have faced from angry US shareholders is possible.

Tempos, page 27

## Markets borne up on a global tide of cash

So that's all right. World markets have been nervous around the sixth anniversary of the 1987 crash; but with the end of the excitement in Moscow, they have put all that behind them. On Wednesday, the London market reached a new high; yesterday, it was Frankfurt again. Wall Street, having generally been less exciting this year, is also near a high. Only Tokyo among leading markets has been stuck recently; though it rose robustly earlier this year, it is still little over half its late-1980s peak. That apart, stock market capitalism has never looked better.

Which is odd, when you look round the world. America is the strongest of the main developed economies but still growing at well under half the rate of a normal cyclical recovery. The British recovery is too weak to register with voters, but still the brightest spot in a continent still sliding deeper into recession and higher unemployment.

ment, plagued by rigid labour markets, high costs and vanishing profits. Japan is worse. The latest slide in activity and property values looks as much like an abyss as a second dip. Bad debts have already eroded a tenth of bank capital, on unofficial but well-informed calculations. Each further fall in asset values is more damaging than the last. With short rates below two per cent, there is not much left for monetary policy to do; one fiscal package after another vanishes into the hole left by corporate investment cuts and falling consumer spending. Capitalist economies has not looked much worse for some 60 years.

These apparent contradictions are largely normal. As these columns have explained before, recession generates enormous savings flows, as businesses and ordinary citizens strive to get out of debt. They feed money into securities markets; governments, suffering revenue losses, take it out again. This looks a zero-



ANTHONY HARRIS

sum game, but as inflation and interest rates fall, the present value of future flows rises. Stock market prices, led by bonds and projections of recovery, are borne up. It is routine for market values and unemployment to peak together. That will do as an explanation of Wall Street, but not of the much steeper rises in European markets, not to mention the spectacular performance of emerging markets. There, normal cyclical savings flows have been supplemented by a profound change in American investment fashion, which may dominate the markets for some years to come. American investors are going

international as never before. The scale of the switch is only now becoming measurable. Mutual funds investing entirely outside the US are now attracting more than \$1 billion a week. Pension funds are increasing their exposure nearly as fast, adding \$18bn in the first half of this year; and the traditionally domestic mutual funds are also beginning to diversify. The flows now approach \$100bn a year, and are likely to be sustained; US portfolios are still more than 90 per cent domestic, a stance which looks hopelessly stick-in-the mud. Some brokers recommend building overseas holdings as high as 30 per cent.

This switch should drag Wall Street down as it pushes other markets up, and so it does; but because American markets are so huge, accounting for some 40 per cent of world financial assets and well over half non-Japanese assets, the switch has a bigger impact

outside the US than it does at home. Result: Wall Street is not down, only relatively sluggish. Meanwhile, foreign yields still look attractive — almost absurdly so in some small markets. Americans are beginning to tangle. You may think British values are high, and a German p/e ratio of 20 too demanding; that is not how it looks from New York.

You might conclude that happy days are here to stay, and so they may be for some time. The most obvious threat is to Wall Street itself, as expectations of capital profit are disappointed, a correction must remain on the cards. That could initially accelerate switching, but not indefinitely. US yields would come to look attractive. On the other side there is the dog that hasn't barked. Japanese investors are still staying at home in the forlorn hope of a return of the 1980s. One day they will start a new fashion — which will be the "sell" signal. The Japanese always seem to get it wrong.

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# New class system plan for the stock market

BY NEIL BENNETT

A DISPUTE is threatening to break out about proposals to reorganise the stock market into 40 new sectors and reclassify more than 300 quoted companies. Dozens of companies are expected to appeal against the reclassification which could hit the price of their shares.

The FT-SE Actuaries Share Indices Steering Committee yesterday unveiled details of the first major overhaul of the stock market's sectors since 1970. The review was initiated to take account of the massive changes which have taken place in

industry, the economy and the stock market, since the sectors were last laid out. The new classification should come into force on January 4.

But the steering committee is already coming under fire from some of the 303 companies which have been reclassified. Rank Organisation has been moved from leisure to office equipment, since a large part of its profits come from its 48.8 per cent stake in Rank Xerox, the photocopier manufacturer, even though Rank insists it is a leisure group and City analysts forecast that the group will sell its Xerox stake soon.

Michael Gifford, Rank's chief executive, said he expected that his company would appeal against the decision. "There was a long mediaeval argument about how many angels you could fit on a pin head and this is like that. This will be the fourth time we have been moved in ten years. Rank is an entertainment company with an investment in Rank Xerox," he said. Leisure analysts said they would ignore the change and continue to research Rank.

Another major company which is expected to appeal against the reclassification is Inchcape — moved from general traders to vehicle distributors. A spokesman for the company said it would look at the proposals carefully. Companies have until October 31 to file an appeal. There will be 40 new sectors, and 77 sub-sectors. Currently, there are 35 sectors and 76 sub-sectors.

One aim is to iron out anomalies in the old system. The health and household sector has been split into pharmaceuticals and household goods, while drinks companies have been divided into brewers and distillers. The large miscellaneous sectors have disappeared. Separately, the FT-SE steering committee has decided to defer a decision on its rules which decide whether a company is

British and eligible for inclusion in the FT-SE 100 index until after the Budget when the Chancellor is expected to announce arrangements for the new foreign income dividends. Until now, companies have only qualified for inclusion if they pay British tax on their dividend.

Until the Budget, the committee has decided to maintain the *status quo*. As a result SmithKline Beecham shares will stay in the FT-SE 100, but Rothmans shares will be thrown out of the index on October 22, when the company completes its restructuring.

Tempus, page 27

## Shares in Germany buoyed by Yeltsin win

BY COLIN NARBROUGH, WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

THE German stock market scaled new heights, buoyed by President Yeltsin's crushing of the challenge by Russian conservatives and by hopes of lower German interest rates. The Dax index edged above the psychologically important 2,000 mark for the first time. That, however, seemed to prompt caution and the index slipped to close at 1,997.04. The market has risen more than 4.5 per cent since Friday.

"Nobody had the guts to push the Dax any higher," a Deutsche Bank broker commented. Frankfurt analysts believe market sentiment remains positive.

Despite comments this week from Hans Tietmeyer, the Bundesbank's new president, holding out the promise of more cuts in German interest rates, the central bank's first council meeting since his inauguration left key rates unchanged yesterday.

The policy-setting council was clearly unwilling to press for cuts that might undermine Herr Tietmeyer's public commitment to cautious easing of the monetary reins. The discount and Lombard rates were left at 6.25 per cent and 7.25 per cent respectively.

Forecasts for the next rate

cut have centred on next month, though some economists believe the council could justify a move at its next session in two weeks' time. Money supply growth is currently 4 per cent a year and inflation, 7.2 per cent.

Unemployment was up again in western Germany last month, according to the federal labour office. The number of jobless rose by 42,000, after seasonal adjustment, to 2.38 million. If unadjusted figures are used, however, the unemployment rate eased to 7.4 per cent, from 7.5 per cent in August.

There was a surprise surge in the number of people on short-time, the first increase for six months. Rising short-time working could be a sign that the economy faces another dip. The government has appeared confident that the worst of the recession is over, the third quarter is expected to show renewed contraction, after the return to growth in the second.

A Russian delegation began talks with western bankers in Frankfurt to try to reschedule debts of \$26 billion owed by the former Soviet Union.

Anthony Harris, page 23



Eugene Anderson, the chairman, told Ferranti's extraordinary meeting yesterday that trading remained tough

## Ferranti warns of mounting losses

BY MELVYN MARCUS, CITY EDITOR

SPECULATION over whether Ferranti International can survive in its present form mounted yesterday in the wake of a bleak trading message from Eugene Anderson, the chairman.

Mr Anderson, speaking at an extraordinary general meeting called to discuss the company's precarious financial position, said there will be a loss in the six months to end-September "almost certainly larger" than the £10.9 million pre-tax loss last year.

"Liquidity continues to be

painfully tight, making supplier relationships more difficult," he said. "To alleviate this problem, we have continued to seek an equity injection or a strategic partnership. At this point, I cannot say whether we shall be successful in our quest."

In a reference to the International Signal & Control scandal, which rocked Ferranti in 1989, Mr Anderson stated: "It is no secret that Ferranti suffered one of the most devastating frauds in British business history. And with two

thirds of our business in defence, we are on the wrong end of the peace dividend." He stressed that since the fraud, Ferranti has reduced its exposure to the banks from £700 million to nearer £100 million, and cut the workforce from 23,000 to less than 4,000.

Defence markets in the UK, continental Europe and the US remain depressed. Ferranti's order book at the end of August stood at £178 million, with bids outstanding for £740 million worth of business. The EGM had been called

in the wake of a fall in Ferranti's net assets to £47.9 million — less than half the company's called-up share capital of £96.8 million.

It is believed that GEC, spearheaded by Lord Weinstock, is keeping a watchful eye on the Ferranti situation, but speculation over the prospect of a rescue bid — from GEC or elsewhere — has waned in recent months.

On the London stock market, Ferranti's share price held steady at 9½p, capitalising the company at just £86.5 million.

## BCCI case on Clifford 'may cease'

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

DEFENCE lawyers for Clark Clifford, 86, the former US defence secretary charged with bribery and fraud connected to the Bank of Credit and Commerce International scandal, said yesterday prosecutors may drop the case.

Two months ago, Robert Altman, Mr Clifford's colleague for many years who stood accused with him, was cleared of all charges.

Mr Clifford's lawyers said the government's attitude began softening after Mr Altman was cleared, when Robert Morgenthau, the chief prosecutor, agreed to lift the freeze on \$19 million of Mr Clifford's assets.

Abu Dhabi, home of the majority owners of the failed Bank of Credit and Commerce International, will put 13 BCCI executives on trial tomorrow in the largest court case to stem from the bank's collapse in 1991.

The defendants include Agha Hassan Abedi, the BCCI founder and chairman. The Pakistani entrepreneur will be tried in his absence with former Treasury head Syed Ziauddin Ali Akbar, who was sentenced to six years' jail in Britain last week for misusing more than \$1.2 billion.

## Mixed year for Allied Leisure

BY SARAH BAGNALL

ALLIED Leisure, the tepid bowling to nightclubs company, saw a recovery in full year profits, but the squeeze on consumer spending finally caught up with the group.

The relatively low-ticket nature of Allied's bowling alleys and nightclubs failed to provide a sufficient cushion to the recession. Average spending at Allied's 15 MegaBowl centres held up well, but the number of people visiting the centres fell, with customers increasing the average length of time between each visit.

Damien Harte, Allied's new finance director, said: "The recession has caught up with bowling. Spend per head held up well, but volumes declined by about 5 per cent for the year as a whole."

Pre-tax profits climbed to £2.94 million in the year to July 16, up from £2.21 million last year, as turnover, affected by discontinued operations, fell to £24.8 million (£27.8 million).

Allied said that consumer confidence shows little sign of any sustained recovery and trading remains difficult. Earnings climbed to 5.22p (5.02p) a share, but the dividend is cut to 3p (4.75p) for the year, with a 2p (3.25p) final payout, reflecting "a more conservative dividend policy".

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### Tenth of South Western Electricity jobs to go

SOUTH Western Electricity (SWE), one of the 12 regional distributors in England and Wales, is trimming 350 jobs, or 10 per cent of the workforce, during 1994. The company, which has already shed a similar number of jobs since flotation in December 1990, said it hoped the redundancies would be voluntary. Large-scale job losses and consequent cost savings have been a feature of the electricity industry since privatisation. SWE estimates the latest round will save up to £5.5 million a year.

The announcement came on the same day that SWE was slated for having the worst standards of service in the distribution industry, by *Which?* magazine. *Which?* said the company had England's most expensive tariffs, was equal worst at keeping appointments, worst at warning of price cuts and worst at connecting new customers quickly.

The criticism follows a recent report by the industry watchdog OFER, which also placed SWE bottom of the list. A spokesman for the company said that this reflected a rating for guaranteed standards of service of 99.7 per cent during the last financial year, and this had been improved to 99.9 per cent during the current year.

### Canary Wharf delay

CANARY Wharf, the London Docklands development, was yesterday prevented from coming out of administration when one of the scheme's presiding tenants, Ogilvy & Mather, the advertising agency, lodged an objection to the rescue plan presented for High Court approval by Ernst & Young, the administrator. The agency, part of the WPP group, obtained an adjournment of the matter until October 18 for consideration of whether the rescue package adequately represents the long-term interests of tenants. O&M stopped paying rent four months ago and has, in turn, been served with a £1 million writ by Ernst & Young.

### Profits up at MR Data

MR Data Management Group, the transcription and image processing company, is raising its dividend by 20 per cent after a combination of organic growth and acquisitions helped it to another advance in full-year profits. Despite tough trading conditions, the company — formerly known as Microfilm Reprographics — lifted pre-tax profits for the ninth consecutive year, this time by 6 per cent to £8.76 million in the year to end-June. Turnover advanced 21 per cent to £40.8 million, while earnings were flat at 10.6p a share. The final dividend is raised to 3.46p, giving an increased total of 5.19p (4.32p) for the year.

### Pearson to float off oil

PEARSON, the newspaper and banking group that announced plans in July to demerge its oil and fine china interests, says Camco International has filed a registration statement in Washington for an initial public offering of 50 per cent of its equity. The size and pricing of the offer for the oil services company have not yet been decided, but it could be concluded by the end of the year. Camco's shares will be listed on the New York stock exchange. Pearson said in July that by unbundling, it will be able to concentrate on its media interests.

### Prestwick passes payout

PRESTWICK Holdings, the printed circuit board maker, is passing its final dividend after falling to a pre-tax loss of £3.97 million in the year to end-July, from £91,000 profit last time. Turnover rose by £5.6 million, to £36.1 million, but operating costs leapt. Prestwick lost £1 million on selling obsolete fixed assets and set aside £478,000 for reorganisation. It says that trading since July has been encouraging. Gearing leapt to 121.7 per cent (40.6 per cent), and loss per share to 19.8p (6.5p). There is no final dividend (tp), giving a total of 0.5p (1.5p).

### EC car registrations fall

EUROPEAN Community car registrations fell by 10.7 per cent in September from the previous year, the European Automobile Manufacturers Association (ACEA) said yesterday. Registrations fell 15.9 per cent from January to September compared with the same period in 1992. ACEA said. The September slump exceeds that of August, when registrations fell by only 5.6 per cent. ACEA's provisional figures show that EC car registrations fell to 784,870 in September, compared with 878,910 in September 1992.

### Galliford cuts dividend

SHAREHOLDERS in Galliford are being required to share the pain at the civil engineer by taking a sharply reduced dividend. Pre-tax profits slumped from £3.03 million to £412,000 in the year to end-June after earnings from construction dropped to a quarter of their previous level and the specialist contracting side fell into loss. The final dividend is cut from 3.25p to 0.5p, making a total of 4.3p to 1p. The shares fell 3p to 41p. Galliford said the dividend cut was to allow for investment in expanding the housing side.

### EOP calls for £7.6m

ENGLISH & Overseas Properties is raising £7.65 million in a rights issue to help fund the £9.25 million purchase of four freehold office and industrial properties with a rental income of £900,000 from the British Aerospace Pension Fund. EOP, which edged back in to profit in the six months to June, is issuing 23.5 million shares on a one for one basis at 35p, a discount of 19 per cent to the market price. The purchase will be financed by a £5.5 million secured banking facility with the balance met from the proceeds of the rights issue.

### Correction

THERE is no ceiling of £22,000 for employers' National Insurance contributions of 10.4 per cent, as stated in an article on October 6. The ceiling of £22,000 only applies to the employees' contributions. We apologise for the error.

## Sale takes some of the heat off BAE

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT



Cahill: timely success

BRITISH Aerospace has agreed to sell its Ballast Nedam contracting business for £175 million to Royal Boskalis Westminster, the Dutch dredging and contracting group.

The sale is a timely success for John Cahill, BAE's chairman, whose efforts to refocus BAE upon its core businesses have suffered from delays in talks to sell a half share in BAE's regional jet business, Avro International, to Taiwan Aerospace Corporation.

Disposal of Ballast Nedam, which has annual sales of £900 million, is seen within BAE as an important step towards restructuring. The successful outcome of negotia-

tions will free BAE directors to concentrate on the Taiwan deal and on realising a merger of the BAE missile business with that of Matra Hachette, the French conglomerate.

Ballast Nedam was acquired for US\$90 million in 1987, when BAE was trying to widen its ability to provide defence-related services. The company is a prime contractor for building airfield facilities in Saudi Arabia, BAE's single most important overseas market for warplanes and other defence equipment.

Ballast Nedam also has a broad spread of general construction work, building public housing, bridges and

underground railway facilities in The Netherlands, where it has its headquarters. Contracting is undertaken in several European countries, including Britain, and the company has 2,500 employees. Ballast Nedam also runs dredging vessels, which are engaged in work on the new Hong Kong airport.

BAE said that it will retain a project management capability for military infrastructure projects in its defence arm. However, Ballast Nedam is not among core activities on which Mr Cahill is focusing Britain's biggest manufacturing exporter. These are defence, civil aircraft and Rover cars.

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Bill Thornton remains confident in the long term

## Burn Stewart gives warning on profits

By SARAH BAGNALL

DESPITE signs of economic recovery in other industries, Bill Thornton, chairman at Burn Stewart Distillers, the Scotch whisky producer, yesterday warned shareholders trading in the current year could be even worse than the past 12 months.

Pre-tax profits for the year to end June fell 21 per cent to £8.1 million and turnover slid 9.5 per cent to £38 million. Excluding discontinued operations, turnover dropped 5 per cent. The final dividend is 3.3p, taking the total for the year to 5p, unchanged from last year's, which included a notional interim payment due to the company's flotation in November 1991.

Mr Thornton said: "It is unlikely the next round of price negotiations will be of any significance since the

impact of price changes will be confined to a small volume of sales." But he remained confident of long-term prospects.

Profits were hit by recessionary conditions in many of the distiller's markets. Sales grew in the "value for money" sector, the supermarket own-label business where much of the company's activities are concentrated, but the growth was frequently achieved at the expense of the more widely recognised branded products.

Mr Thornton said there is "a scramble for business" in the growing "value for money" sector, leading to pressure on pricing. But the lower prices are not being passed on to the consumer and as a result volume growth has been restricted and margins have suffered.

## H&H backs home loan tax relief

By MARTIN WALLER

ANY further limits on mortgage tax relief would be "absolutely fatal" to any recovery in the housing market and would have a severe knock-on effect on the whole economy, John Theakston, chief executive of Higgs and Hill, the contractor and housebuilder, said.

He was reacting to reports that the November 30 Budget will contain some sort of limitation of tax relief, whether immediate or phased.

H&H had pre-tax profits of £525,000 in the half year to end June, down from £673,000 the previous time. The dividend is maintained at 1p, even though some of it will have to come from reserves. Strong cash flow meant that the group ended the half year with £7.4 million in the bank, up from £4 million at the year-end.

Mr Theakston said: "Irrespective of the intellectual arguments and the rights and wrongs of mortgage tax relief, its scrapping in November would be absolutely fatal to the fragile improvement in the housing market we are seeing. As housing is seen as a barometer of the economy, the knock-on effect into other areas would be unfortunate."

The alternative, of phasing relief out in 18 months' time, would only distort the market by prompting an unsustainable surge in housebuying that would then fade, he said.

The past two months had seen fewer first-time buyers, because of political uncertainty. "People are being hesitant in the short term, and anything that adds to that is unhelpful," Mr Theakston said.

## Campari plunges into loss

By PHILIP FANGALOS

SHARES in Campari International plummeted 49p to 93p after the sporting leisurewear group dived into the red at the interim stage and sounded a pessimistic tone on near-term prospects.

Campari, which relies on Europe for 75 per cent of its business, plunged to a pre-tax loss of £3.09 million in the six months to June 30. Margins were squeezed by the continuing impact of recession in many of its markets. The company made a £1.03 million profit last time.

Kit Maunsell, chief executive, said: "Some 75 per cent of our business is Europe oriented and Europe has suffered badly over the last six months. We have also had supplier problems. When things are turning down, that exacerbates the situation."

Campari is passing its interim dividend: last time, there was a payout of 3.25p. The loss per share was 29.01p, against earnings of 7.27p a share previously.

Turnover climbed to £20 million (£18.7 million), but on a like-for-like basis was 6 per cent lower than last time.

There are slight signs of an upturn in the UK, but other parts of Europe remain depressed, so the company expects no return to profitable trading until 1994 at the earliest.

"We are reducing the cost base," Mr Maunsell said, "but the prognosis is not good. It's going to be a long haul."

The company added that forward orders for the remainder of 1993 were below the level it would like to see.

## Postel gains key vote on Greycoat

By CARL MORTISHED

POSTEL Investment Management has secured key votes from Goldman Sachs, the American investment bank, in an eleventh-hour bid for support for the fund manager's controversial rescue of Greycoat, the property company.

Goldman Sachs has told Greycoat that it will vote for the reconstruction at today's extraordinary meeting. Greycoat yesterday disclosed that Alastair Ross Goobey, Postel's chief executive, had reiterated that Postel would not amend or increase terms of the financial reconstruction.

The Postel rescue has been criticised by preference shareholders, who stand to lose 60 per cent of the capital value of holdings. Opponents of the rescue are thought to include Gruss Partners, holding 14 per cent, and, until yesterday, included Goldman Sachs, with 8 per cent of preference shares and 1.7 per cent of ordinary shares. Postel needs support from 75 per cent of preference shares to succeed.

Support for Postel's plan came yesterday from Japanese investors in Greycoat's British bonds, secured on Britannic House in the City.

## Barclays plans to sell off packets of personal loans

By PATRICIA TEHAN  
BANKING CORRESPONDENT



Andrew Buxton aims the securitised loans at institutions

BARCLAYS Bank is the first UK clearing bank to package up personal loans and sell them to investors, with the launch of a £280 million securitisation issue. The bank is securitising 100,000, or 35 per cent, of its Masterloan personal loan products. The issue follows similar sales of mortgage assets.

The bank, chaired by Andrew Buxton, will continue to manage the loans and the customer will notice no change, but the sale removes the assets, and therefore the risk, from Barclays' balance sheet, helping the bank to free capital to make further loans. Customers will not be notified.

The sale will be handled by Gracechurch Personal Loan Finance, a single-purpose company that will buy the loans, financing their acquisition with two issues of notes, totalling £280 million. The issue is being targeted at institutional investors. The bonds will be sold in denominations of £100,000 each. They will pay 20 basis points over Libor in interest per year and

be redeemed over five years as loans are paid off.

Oliver Stocken, the bank's finance director, said: "We have long believed that securitisation is a highly valuable technique for maximising capital efficiency. Barclays first securitised mortgages four years ago and we are moving on to new areas."

Barclays raised £175 million in a mortgage securitisation issue in 1989. TSB and Bank of Ireland have also sold pack-

ages of mortgages to investors, and National Westminster was the most recent with a £300 million sale last week.

Banks are also investigating the possibility of securitising other assets, including personal, car and corporate loans.

Guy Fletcher, who is in charge of developing securitisation for Barclays, said it was possible to securitise corporate lending, all sorts of personal loans, and credit cards. He said banks would be exploring

securitisation possibilities "to decide what is the most capital-efficient or cost-effective option".

He said securitising personal loans was more capital-efficient than mortgage securitisation as banks had to carry double the capital for personal loans.

Bank of Scotland went ahead with plans to raise £200 million by an issue of subordinated undated bonds.

The bank said proceeds from the bonds, which are expected to count as upper Tier 2 capital, would be used to strengthen its capital base and support business growth. The bank announced its plans to raise additional subordinated loan stock capital when it unveiled interim figures on Wednesday. George Mitchell, chief executive of the bank's treasury services business, said market conditions looked right, so it had been decided to proceed immediately. He said that if the issue had been in place at the end of August, total capital ratios would have risen from 11 per cent at the end of February to 11.7 per cent, instead of falling to 10.9 per cent.

## Trim Etam doubles its figure

By SUSAN GLICHRIST

STRICT cost control and tighter stock management helped double interim profits at Etam, the women's fashion group. However, Sir John Nott, Etam's chairman and a former defence secretary, remains cautious about a high-street recovery given uncertainties over the impact of the November Budget.

Group pre-tax profits rose from £1.2 million to £2.4 million for the six months to August 14, despite only a small increase in sales from £105.8 million to £108.2 million. Keith Miles, Etam's finance director, said much of the improvement was due to better merchandising, which ensured it had less stock to mark down at the end of the season. Gross margins rose from 3.9 per cent to 4.8 per cent.

The group, which comprises the Etam, Snob and Tammy chains, plans to add about eight stores a year. Although it is keen to shed its image as the store of the Rotherham office girl, Mr Miles says it will stick to its core customers.

Trading so far in the second half has been disappointing, but the interim dividend is lifted from 1.65p to 1.75p.

# This is your wake-up call.



# Gloomy talk and bear raiders give Guinness a hangover

GUINNESS has become the latest target of bear raiders leaving the shares nursing a fall of 10p at 407p as several gloomy stories circulated within the Square Mile.

The first is said to have originated in Paris with talk that LVMH-Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton, Guinness' French associate, is about to unveil a trading statement revealing a downward sales trend. An unwinding of both companies 24 per cent cross-holdings was also mooted. Guinness said: "We have been in touch with LVMH and can confirm no statement is about to be issued by them, or us."

The second rumour suggested Guinness had let it be known it is about to go down-

## STOCK MARKET

market by establishing itself as the biggest supplier of cheap bulk whisky in order to boost sales. Guinness retorted: "It's a mystery how this one began circulating. In fact, the company intends to go up-market, not down". Some of yesterday's depressing effect on the shares can be attributed to a profits downgrade said to have been carried out by Warburg Securities.

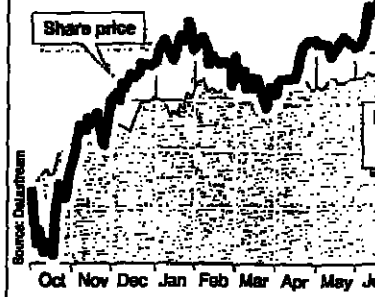
The rest of the equity market saw an early lead wiped out as any remaining hopes of a cut in interest rates to coincide with this week's Conservative party conference

evaporated. Market-makers short of stock made every attempt to take advantage of the situation by calling prices lower in thin conditions which saw only 572 million shares traded. The FT-SE 100 index ended 8.4 down at 3,092.4 having been almost 10 points higher earlier on.

British Aerospace remained overshadowed by the uncertainty over the Taiwan joint venture. But the price closed off the bottom, down 6p at 393p in late trading, on news of the sale of its Ballast Nedam construction division.

Talk of a bid for Rank Organisation has been put on the back-burner, for the time being at least, with the price dropping 10p to 823p as a line of at least 1 million shares

## RANK ORGANISATION: SHARES DEPRESSED BY LARGE STOCK OVERHANG



continued to overhang the market. Rank has been a strong market of late, enjoying a chart breakout at 800p as investors switched out of Thorn EMI, 3p lower at 958p. Talk does persist that the

group is close to selling its stake in Xerox; this would lift the price above £10 a share. Sedgwick, the insurance broker, fell 7p to 168p with BZW reckoned to have cut its pre-tax profit forecast for the

current year from £70.4 million to £68.5 million and by £16 million to £89 million for 1994. BZW also reduced its estimate for Willis Corroon in the current year by £1.2 million to £70 million and for 1994 by £13 million to £79 million. Willis fell 8p to 206p. SmithKline Beecham 'A' added 6p at 421p with the Units 3p better at 370p. The steering committee of the FT-SE 100 index after its restructuring on October 22 which had threatened its eligibility. Meanwhile, Rothmans International fell a further 21p to 623p after losing its place after its proposed restructuring. News of its third profits

warning in less than a year sent shares of Tiphook, the trailer and container rental group, plunging 69p to 169p, after touching 137p. Robert Montague, the chairman, now expects to make a loss in the first half of this year after budgeting for a small profit. Campari International also tumbled, by 49p to 93p, as it plunged into the red with losses of £3.09 million in the first half against a profit last time of £1.03 million and halted payment of an interim dividend. The group does not expect to return to the black until 1994 at the earliest. Martin International fell 39p to 49p, after learning that the group expects to make a pre-tax loss for the full year. Interim figures showed a pre-

tax loss of £270,000 against a corresponding £142,000 profit. Ferranti International eased 4p to 9p after Eugene Anderson, the chairman, warned shareholders at the EGM that the group expects a first-half loss greater than last time's £10.9 million. Gilt-edged fell on the day with European bond markets dipped. The December series of the Long Gilt fell 7/16 to £113 1/16 as 33,500 contracts were completed. Trading volumes in the cash market were better with Treasury 9 per cent 2012 losing seven ticks to £118 1/16 while at the short end Treasury 9 1/2 per cent 1999 eased five to £112 1/16.

MICHAEL CLARK

## Bank staff to vote on strike call

The Royal Bank of Scotland faces strike action over plans to lay off or downgrade 44 of its 700 technology staff.

The Banking Insurance and Finance Union will begin balloting next Thursday on a series of one-day strikes to protest about the cuts. The result will be known at the end of the month.

## Bulmer beer

HP Bulmer has identified a major beer brand that the cider maker will distribute alongside its Red Stripe brand and its range of ciders. Bulmer has secured the UK marketing rights for Heineken's Amstel beer, one of the top five selling brands in Europe.

## Office sale

Scottish Metropolitan, the property group, has sold its Saltire Court office development in Edinburgh to the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority for £53.1 million, above the asking price of £46.8 million.

## Builder falls

Administrative receivers have been appointed to McLaughlin & Harvey, the Northern Ireland construction group, whose shares were suspended at 28p when it entered into talks with its bankers over some £5 million of debt.

# Lloyds Chemists switches to growth through new stores

By MARTIN WALLER  
DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

LLOYDS Chemists, the product of breakfast expansion by acquisition since the middle of the last decade, has signalled a more steady rate of growth in coming years through new store openings. Lloyds pretax profits advanced from £35.5 million to £49.7 million in the year to end-June, helped by a first full-year contribution from Macarthy, bought in March 1992.

But Allen Lloyd, the chairman, said 1992-93 was the most difficult in the group's 20-year history. The rise in profits from the core chemists business failed to track a sharper increase in turnover stemming from new stores that were added because of pressure on margins.

The reasons were threefold, he added. A government clawback of charges for generic drugs cost the group £6.3 million; the Macarthy branch, new to the group, did not provide the same level of margins as existing stores; and the environment in the high street remained tough.

However, Lloyds can already point to a 14 per cent rise in sales in the first 13 weeks of the current year. "Our strate-



Peter Lloyd, chief executive, and Allen Lloyd, chairman, who said yesterday the last 12 months were the toughest in 20 years

gy remains geared to a tough trading environment as we expect both economic growth to be slow and retailing to remain highly competitive," he said. The group has sparked some concern in the City over its fast growth rate.

Mr Lloyd said cash generated last year came to £5.2 million, trimming debt to £15.7 million, or 14 per cent of net assets. Lloyds expects to double the size of its Holland and Barrett health products chain over the next five years to about 500

outlets, and to have the same number of drugstores. Only a few chemists are to open this year — the group is therefore budgeting to open about 100 outlets over the next year. Mr Lloyd said no plans existed for large acquisitions of chains of

chemists. The final dividend is set at 5.25p, making a total increase from 5.55p to 7.25p. The stock market reacted favourably to the figures and the dividend hike, the price moving 16p ahead to 285p.

## LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

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### THE VARIA GROUP OF COMPANIES ROYCO INVESTMENT COMPANY

On 25th May 1989 the High Court of Justice in England placed the following companies into provisional liquidation:-

- (1) Royco Investment Company NV;
- (2) Abinger Southfield Fiduciary Services Limited;
- (3) Nederlandse Varia Garantie Maatschappij NV;
- (4) Royco Investment Company Limited;
- (5) Royco Marketing SA;
- (6) Varia Holdings Limited;
- (7) Britannia Marketing Limited; and
- (8) Henderson Investment Corporation

On 5th July 1989 the High Court of Justice in England placed these companies into liquidation. On 31st January 1990 the High Court of Justice in England also placed the following company into liquidation:-

- (9) Sunny Corporation Limited

These nine companies had, prior to liquidation, been in the business of selling what purported to be high performance bonds, providing a range of investments designed to couple exceptional returns with exceptional security. These included:-

- (a) Royco Guaranteed Income Bond I;
- (b) Royco Capital Protection Bond II; and
- (c) Royco High Performance Bond III

At the request of the English liquidator of the above nine companies, the High Court of Justice in England has given the liquidator directions as to how the assets which have been recovered should be distributed.

If you claim an interest in the assets of the above nine companies, either as a creditor or otherwise, please write to Ernst & Young, Beckett House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7LU, England, Ref: Jonathan Hogg, setting out the nature of your claim.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ANY PERSON WHOSE CLAIM IN WRITING IS NOT RECEIVED BY ERNST & YOUNG WITHIN 90 DAYS OF THIS ADVERTISEMENT WILL BE DEEMED BY DIRECTIONS OF THE COURT TO HAVE ABANDONED THEIR CLAIM.

## LEGAL NOTICES

**EDMUNDSONS LTD**  
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, notice is hereby given that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named company will be held at 10.00 am on 11th October 1993 at the offices of the Liquidator, 100 Broad Street, London EC2M 2JF.

**THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986**  
Rule 4.106 (1) LATEST COMPANY (1991) LIMITED  
Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named company will be held at 10.00 am on 11th October 1993 at the offices of the Liquidator, 100 Broad Street, London EC2M 2JF.

**GROSVENOR ELECTRIC GROUP LIMITED**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named company will be held at 10.00 am on 11th October 1993 at the offices of the Liquidator, 100 Broad Street, London EC2M 2JF.

**THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986**  
Rule 4.106 (1) LATEST COMPANY (1991) LIMITED  
Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named company will be held at 10.00 am on 11th October 1993 at the offices of the Liquidator, 100 Broad Street, London EC2M 2JF.

**NO OF MATTER 197 OF 1993**  
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE  
CHANCERY DIVISION  
In the matter of the Insolvency Act 1986, and in the matter of the Companies Act 1985, and in the matter of the Insolvency Rules 1986, and in the matter of the Companies (No. 2) Regulations 1986, and in the matter of the Companies (No. 3) Regulations 1986, and in the matter of the Companies (No. 4) Regulations 1986, and in the matter of the Companies (No. 5) Regulations 1986, and in the matter of the Companies (No. 6) Regulations 1986, and in the matter of the Companies (No. 7) Regulations 1986, and in the matter of the Companies (No. 8) Regulations 1986, and in the matter of the Companies (No. 9) Regulations 1986, and in the matter of the Companies (No. 10) Regulations 1986, and in the matter of the Companies (No. 11) Regulations 1986, and in the matter of the Companies (No. 12) Regulations 1986, and in the matter of the Companies (No. 13) Regulations 1986, and in the matter of the Companies (No. 14) Regulations 1986, and in the matter of the Companies (No. 15) Regulations 1986, and 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# Lottery groups scramble to pick UK's lucky number

**A National Lottery could soon be a reality. US experience is that the operator could make a lot of money — and enemies.**  
**Jon Ashworth reports**

Lottery fever is set to sweep Britain. As early as October next year, Britons may be having their first taste of a craze that regularly sends millions of Americans running for their television sets. Lottery tickets in hand, they watch with grinning teeth as the numbers roll into place — numbers that could add up to \$5 million... \$10 million... \$100 million.

Soon after Parliament returns this month, the National Lottery Bill is expected to win Royal Assent. When it does, tenders will be issued for what is likely to become the most hotly contested contract in recent British commercial history. At stake is the right to run an enterprise which may generate £2 billion in revenue in the first year alone. Already, the giants are lining up to do battle.

Last week, a five-member consortium emerged as an important contender to win the licence to operate the National Lottery. Camelot Group, headed by Sir Ron Dearing, the former Post Office chairman, is pitting itself against rivals that include The Great British Lottery Company, Rank Organisation and Tattersalls, an Australian lottery enterprise. Ladbroke appears to be pondering a bid and other players may be waiting in the wings.

In terms of marketing and expertise, Camelot is well ahead of the field. It has an impressive line-up of members, with De La Rue to print the lottery tickets, ICL to provide the computers, Racal Electronics to supply information lines and a marketing expert in Cadbury Schweppes.

But the fifth and most important player in the Camelot bid is a company few Britons will have heard of: GTECH, an American group that has come to dominate the world lottery industry. From an imposing base in West Greenwich, Rhode Island, GTECH's tentacles have reached out to the farthest corners of the globe — it claims to serve 77 per cent of the world's lotteries.

The group designs, manufactures, installs and operates on-line lottery systems, and generated turnover of \$501 million in the year to February. Product sales accounted for \$158 million of the total; commission on lottery tickets made up the rest.

The ability to generate such sums makes many enemies. On the day Camelot was launched, an unmarked Sunday newspaper, packed with scurrilous claims about underworld connections, its arrival heralded the UK debut of a dirty tricks campaign that has plagued GTECH for years and that will certainly intensify as rival consortiums fight over the British lottery licence.

For a taste of some typical mud-slinging, one need look no further than GTECH's most recent annual report.



GTECH, a systems supplier, dominates the global lottery business

The notes reveal that GTECH made campaign contributions to a Californian senator who was later convicted under the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) Act. In another case, the group was on the receiving end of a lawsuit alleging securities fraud and RICO violations, among other things, over the acquisition of a former subsidiary.

GTECH's response to such allegations could not be plainer: they are without substance. The company has never been found to be engaged in any wrongdoing or impropriety. It has never been charged or convicted. In the case of the Californian senator, the authorities have told GTECH it is not the subject of enquiries.

But mud sticks. Last year, in a damaging attack, a New York tabloid

newspaper alleged that a former GTECH employee was connected with the Mafia — apparently on the ground that he had an Italian surname. The claims triggered a police investigation and saw the company's procurement of the New York lottery contract reviewed in the Supreme Court. GTECH emerged with clean hands. A spokesman said: "GTECH is beyond reproach, but you are going to hear things now and then. This is a very contentious business."

Technically, GTECH is well placed to help Camelot's bid. Parallels can be drawn with the launch, in May 1992, of the Texas Lottery, for which GTECH installed 15,000 terminals, built two computer centres, formed 11 regional offices, trained 45,000 retailers and hired 500 people — all in the space of 69

days. A similar pattern may evolve in the UK. A computer centre would almost certainly be built in the London area, because of the density of population in the South East.

An obvious location for a second would be Liverpool; in part to allay fears about the impact the lottery may have on the pools industry. At least 11 regional centres would be required to service the corner shops and petrol stations that would sell the lottery tickets.

GTECH would expect to install 15,000 terminals to begin with, rising to as many as 30,000 as regional areas were brought within the network. The project would create at least 500 jobs, mainly in customer support.

If Camelot were to win the UK licence, a UK lottery could be live in a year's time. Previous estimates set the launch for the spring of 1995. The ability to move fast is a cornerstone of GTECH's plan for the UK: to put systems in as quickly as possible, provide efficient field operatives and maximise coverage. The exercise would cost between £100 million and £200 million at least.

The mechanics of a lottery are simple. A player picks a series of numbers on a card, which is then fed into a terminal, not unlike a cash register. A signal is relayed to a mainframe computer, bounced back, and the card is verified — all in the space of about five seconds. The biggest draws take place on prime-time Saturday night television, though there are various options and daily draws are also popular.

In America, most lottery tickets are bought in the last few hours before Saturday's weekly draw. This surge of activity puts an immense strain on the GTECH computers and sends staff scurrying, but most eventualities are covered.

Two computer centres are used to allow operations to be switched in the event of a natural disaster. After the 1989 San Francisco earthquake, GTECH re-routed its California network to allow the locals to carry on playing, come what may.

In the UK, the National Lottery is expected to raise hundreds of millions of pounds for the arts, architecture, sport and other causes. Half the revenue would be distributed in prizes, with 23p in the pound earmarked for "good causes", 12p for the Treasury, and 15p for the operator.

GTECH's closest rival in the imminent bidding war, The Great British Lottery Company, has some big names behind it — Granada, Vodafone, Harcourt Bank, Carlton Communications and Associated Newspapers. It also includes GTECH's arch-rival AWL, a Montana-based company that competes energetically with GTECH at every turn.

Advertising agencies, public relations advisers and merchant banks are all vying for a slice of the UK National Lottery contract. Whichever consortium wins, and no matter how much mud is shung, the outcome for the average British punter is secure.

Soon, spending Saturday night in front of the television will take on a new meaning. And loose change that would have been spent on chocolate or magazines will find its way into a new disposable commodity — the lottery ticket.

## TEMPUS

### The class system

MICHAEL Gifford, chief executive of Rank, might dismiss the stock market reclassification as a futile exercise, but nobody lost money by miscounting the number of angels on a pinhead. Fund managers often track market performance so slavishly these days that the performance of each sector becomes more important than the constituents within it. A comparison of the boom in the motor sector with the slump of health and household emphasises the point. The unlikely collection of actuaries, fund managers and brokers analysts who sit on the FT-SE Actuaries Share

to track, instead of a bizarre health and household sector that lumped together Glaxo and Reckitt & Colman. Not all the anomalies have been removed. BAT Industries is still left almost isolated in a tobacco sector even though much of its business is in financial services. The reclassifications of Rank Organisation and Inchcape may look sensible in profit terms but are bizarre given the companies' directions. Ideally, their positions will be resolved on appeal.

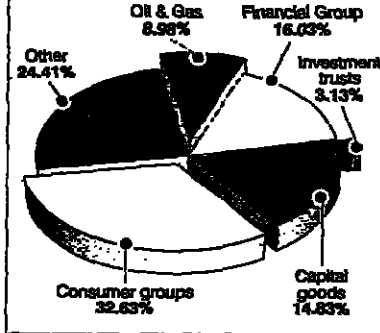
Any attempt to classify the business world would have thrown up some conundrums.

The problem with laying out a framework like this is that industry and commerce will quickly evolve beyond it. If there is any weakness in the new system it is the lack of a miscellaneous sector for companies that defy definition. In the future, the committee will have to place unusual companies into unsuitable sectors, or invent new ones for them.

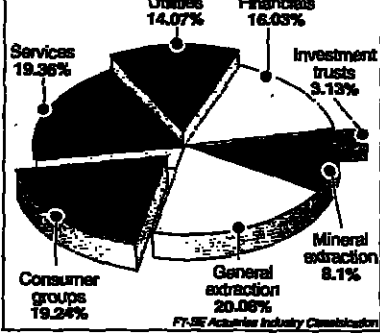
The committee has displayed an admirable pragmatic streak in its treatment of SmithKline Beecham and Rothmans. By deferring a decision on the definition of nationality until after the Budget, it has achieved what one suspects was its goal all along: pushing Rothmans, with its links to Richmond, out of the FT-SE 100 while leaving SB alone. If the committee uses such flexibility in the maintenance of its classifications, it will make the task of market watchers, including this column, much easier.

#### OUT WITH THE OLD

##### EXISTING STOCKMARKET GROUPS



##### NEW STOCKMARKET GROUPS



#### Tiphook

THE only positive aspect of Tiphook's latest profit warning is that it surprised the market. On previous occasions, statements have leaked out and the shares have plunged days before any official announcement. That apart, the outlook is bleak and much depends on the goodwill of its banks.

Tiphook looks to be heading for a major refinancing. Gearing is about to crash through 500 per cent as Tempus predicted in August and talks with the banks have begun in earnest. What emerges is likely to mean heavy dilution for the shareholders in the form of a large rights issue or a debt for equity swap. The chance of any dividend being paid this year is slim while the financial position remains so shaky. The banks are likely to wring a series of other conditions from Tiphook in exchange for their support. These could include the injection of some new management and a review of Tiphook's accounting practices, including depreciation

policy. The banks may also encourage the group to renegotiate its ambitious capital spending plans. Tiphook is committed to spend £327 million on new trailers in the next five years, which it does not look able to afford.

At least the company's future should not be in doubt since the banks have too much to lose. Tiphook has debts of about £1 billion, and its lenders will be keen to keep their provisions to a minimum since the economic recovery is finally beginning to improve their profitability. But any route to recovery will be painful. The shares have hitherto been supported by the high historic yield but this prop will soon be kicked away. Tempus recommended them as a sell at 235p in August, and they still look overvalued at 169p.

#### J Bibby

THE merger of J Bibby may seem a knee-jerk reaction after the proposals announced in August by Barlow Rand, its South African parent, but the likely state of Bibby's balance sheet

suggests the reason for doing the splits is closer to home. Last year, Bibby earned the distinction of being the first British company to carry out a hostile takeover in Spain, bidding £86 million for Finanzauto, the Caterpillar distributor for the Iberian peninsula. Winning was a pyrrhic victory as the company has plunged into loss due to the collapse of the Spanish construction market and Bibby has been left shouldering the debt.

Spinning off an 80 per cent interest in three divisions, science products, paper and agricultural products, should generate enough cash to substantially cut the debt burden on the remaining company, which includes Bibby's profitable materials handling business. That will be small comfort for existing shareholders, who will also be left with the rapidly contracting business of Finanzauto, and it is difficult to see any greater logic to the proposed mini-conglomerate. However, the alternative for Bibby is a large rights issue, an unwelcome prospect for Barlow Rand and other investors.

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### No big deal after all

ON THE day Viscount Linley ties the knot with the Hon Serena Stanhope, spare a thought for those who bought shares in the Deals restaurant chain in the Eighties. Lord Linley and the Earl of Lichfield have almost 20 per cent between them in Latchmead Group, launched under the Business Expansion Scheme in 1988 to raise extra funds for the Deals chain of eateries. More than five years on, fellow investors have plenty to gripe about — performance has been pedestrian, and only two Deals are open — in Chelsea Harbour and West Soho — despite plans for a string of US saloon-style diners. A third may open in Hammersmith. Venues to benefit from tonight's ceremony at St Margaret's, Westminster, include Mosimann's of Belgrave — lunch for the best man and ushers — St James's Palace — a £25,000 thrash for bride, groom and 750 guests — and San Lorenzo in Knightsbridge for tonight's celebratory dinner. No such joy for Deals. Don't the shareholders deserve a wedding present, too?

### Carr aboard

THE feminine charm is fast invading Cliff Resources, the gold mining and oil group headed by Algy Cliff. Within days of his marriage in Hong Kong, he has appointed Eileen Carr, Cliff's financial controller, to the main board as finance director. In her time, Carr has worked for the Marc Rich organisation in Russia. She joined Cliff in 1981 as the

accountant for Cliff's North Sea and American activities, spent a year in Shanghai managing the financial side of Cliff's offshore oil drilling operations, and yesterday was on group business in Zimbabwe — and all by the age of 36.

WHAT has the Central Statistical Office started? Just over a month after it decided to publish economic statistics at 9.30am instead of 11.30am, others are rushing to fall into line. The employment, environment and trade departments and the Treasury have opted for the earlier time.

### Bel-Air triumphs

THE Bel-Air in Los Angeles has trumped its rivals in Asia for the first time in 12 years and been judged best hotel in the world. Readers of Institutional Investor, placed the Hong Kong Regent second, and the Oriental in Bangkok third. The first London hotel to feature is the Connaught, in eighth place, with the Berkeley 12th, and Claridge's 20th. The

top hotel in Europe is the Ritz in Paris, but the Peninsula hotel in Hong Kong slips from 7th to 17th place in the Asia-Pacific league — embarrassing Michael Kadoorie, chairman of Hong Kong and Shanghai Hotels, who has just taken delivery of nine Rolls-Royce Silver Spur IIIs for the use of Peninsula guests. The order is worth £2.7 million to the UK motor group.

### Tension building

TENSION was evident at the Royal Lancaster Hotel in London last night on the occasion of the Building Manager of the Year Awards, sponsored by the Chartered Institute of Building. Champagne flowed at the Bovis table after the group won three awards and its chairman, Sir Frank Lampl, picked up an honorary accolade. There was less cause for celebration among the ranks at the Costain construction group, which is currently under fire over its performance. Sir Christopher Benson, chairman, was allowed a degree of immunity from his place at the top table. Less so other Costain executives dotted around the room — surrounded by predatory analysts with a keen interest in the future of Peter Costain, the embattled chief executive.

Accountants are growing daring in their approach to receiverships. Yesterday's press release from BDO Binder Hamlyn announcing that McLaughlin & Harvey had gone to the wall was headlined: "Construction Company on Unstable Ground."

JON ASHWORTH

### UK industry has been hard at work

From the Director, The Foundation for the Advancement of British Manufacturing Industry

Sir, The launch of a new think-tank for industry (reprinted in your columns, September 28) is to be warmly welcomed. Sir Trevor Holdsworth's quoted analogy with Chatham House is apt and bodes well for this new initiative. The forum, albeit a "talking shop" for informed debate, deserves to be supported by all who have at heart the best interests of United Kingdom plc.

It is, however, less than generous to the CBI and the Foundation for the Advancement of British Manufacturing Industry (FABMI) for your informed debate, deserves to be supported by all who have at heart the best interests of United Kingdom plc.

FABMI, launched in Industry Year, 1986, was a thoughtful response to the dire forebodings spelt out in the House of Lords select committee report on overseas trade, chaired by Lord Aldington.

Support for the new foundation came from, among others,

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. Meanwhile, over at the RSA, Lord Siff, practitioner par excellence, was contributing learned addresses on the chaos of British manufacturing.

Later, but still within the decade, the CBI Manufacturing Council saw the light of day and has now, two years on, become firmly established.

Sir, I would submit that rather than wandering lost in the wilderness, many stalwart devotees have been working tirelessly to generate increased public awareness of an industry sector whose best practices, intelligently applied, directly identify with the process of productive job creation. The end product is the increasing availability of the "British Option" for both home and overseas markets.

I trust that this will put the record straight. Yours faithfully, NORMAN HEARSON, Director, The Foundation for the Advancement of British Manufacturing Industry, IBM United Kingdom Ltd, Havant, Hampshire.

### Extending VAT destroys element of choice

From Mr David Akenhead

Sir, Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, should be aware of the deep resentment that is felt by those of us within the business community who face the prospect of further VAT obligations to the Exchequer.

Enough of this autumnal madness! If, as it would seem, he is hell-bent on whacking VAT on everything, then what I ask, is the point of the infernal tax?

My message to the Chancellor is this. Scrap the thing.

Take your revenues from income tax, thereby relieving yourself of an administrative nightmare, and saving people like me (I am in publishing) from going to the wall.

Where, now, is the much-vaunted choice that VAT is supposed to offer, and where are your party's votes going to come from at the next general election?

Yours faithfully, DAVID AKENHEAD (Director), Akom Ltd, 51 Manor Lane, SE13.

### Poor environment for job creation

From Lord Aberconway

Sir, The element of industrial costs least difficult to reduce is usually employee numbers. If such a reduction can be achieved whilst output volume

is maintained, efficiency is improved and competitiveness enhanced. This objective is constantly, and correctly, urged upon us all.

But thereby unemployment, our most serious and socially emotive problem, is worsened. How can we resolve this dilemma?

Only, surely, by increasing sales to an extent that requires re-employment. Even so, in the present climate only a fortunate few, at home or abroad, have the money to buy the extra output.

Yours faithfully, ABERCONWAY, 40 Lowndes Street, SW1.

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# MOTORING

What do you do when your children won't all fit into a saloon? Two family men put some solutions to the test

## Three chapters from a space odyssey

According to the official statistics, the average nuclear family unit has just 1.8 children — fine for the average family car. But what about the 18 per cent of families that are bigger than the average, with three or four children to cram into the saloon?

The bigger the family, the more slender often is the household budget — which rules out buying executive-sized saloons. Estate cars with extra seats are an unwelcome compromise because they swap seats for luggage space. So many families are turning to the new breed of 4x4 and multi-purpose vehicles which can provide enough seats and enough bootroom for a large family.

Renault pioneered the multi-purpose vehicle with its Espace and the rest, including VW with its Caravelle, have followed. Land Rover's Discovery is the acknowledged leader of the 4x4 pack — but which kind of vehicle is best for the family? We put three of them through a week-long battering.

### LAND ROVER

**PRICE: £20,400**

IF you have a family of four youngsters like mine, ranging from a teenager to a baby, finding space for all their paraphernalia is almost impossible. Paul Wilkinson writes: Once the travel cot and buggy are in, there is not much room for suitcases or footballs, let alone the children.

Two of them use child seats, which take up as much space as an adult, the teenager has the legs of a basketball player and his 12-year-old sister gets car-sick facing any direction other than forward.

When you are aged over 40 and flat-broke, economy is more important than performance — so I opted to test the Land Rover Discovery Tdi over Lakeland hills. The economy did not disappoint, with 500 miles of travel available from every tank.

The children loved its rugged looks, knobby tyres, and high ground clearance, smacking of the great outdoors. Sadly, the looks made no difference when it came to trying to shove in two adults, four children and all their gear.

Land Rover claims space for three on the bench seat behind the driver, but the wheel arches intrude into the edges of the seat — very uncomfortable when three people use it. It is bearable on short runs, but I can vouch for its uncomfortable inadequacies on a trek over a series of passes.

My son, aged 15, liked the novelty of the two sideways-facing

tip-up seats in the back and the view out of the big rear window, but after two hours sharing the space with an assortment of luggage, even his enthusiasm waned.

Packing the vehicle was like an initiative test for officer recruits, perming all the various shaped packages with the different-sized bodies. In the end Alice, aged three, got the front passenger place in her child's seat so we could utilise the enormous footwell for bags. The rear wheel-arch caused the baby chair to tilt on the edge of the rear seat.

The Discovery was good to drive and, even though it is longer and wider than the normal car, it felt easy to handle. Power steering made light work of turning two tons of metal. There was little difficulty with parking and reversing once the size was appreciated, and the high driving position was a delight.

I knew the Discovery was built for sterner things than simple road driving. I suspect many of its owners will never use the limited slip differential or the low-gear ratio, but they are fun to experiment with off-road.

Fifth gear on the Discovery is really just for cruising and its claimed top speed of 90 mph seems like promotional hyperbole.

The optional extra of a shoulder bag clipped to the Discovery's transmission tunnel was clever storage, as were two shock-cord nets in the roof above the rear seats, but the front door pockets on the vehicle were inaccessible with the doors shut.

Is this the car to choose to move



On trial with the family... the Land Rover Discovery Tdi, top, the Renault Espace Turbo D, above left, and the VW Caravelle

my legion of children? The Discovery is great for messing about off-road and wins on charisma, but a Tdi is hardly a budget buy for the average hard-up father of four.

### RENAULT ESPACE

**PRICE: £17,795**

MY family registered an initial bias against the Espace, for try as the makers do, they cannot stop

these vehicles looking like mini-buses, Paul Wilkinson writes.

The Espace Turbo D swallowed everything we could load into it, though. A wheel at each corner means no intruding arches to cut down space. There are three individual seats behind the driver and two more behind them. Better still, they can each be removed or the back folded flat to provide a variety of storage.

That flexibility meant we could

find somewhere for everyone and everything... and in some style and comfort. In spite of the first reaction against the boxy shape, the Espace grew on everyone very quickly. The children loved the room they had to stretch out in, while bins and pockets are cavernous and dotted conveniently around the cabin.

Worries that the vehicle might drive like a van were dispelled and the Espace's turbo-diesel pulled

away sharply and bowed happily along. Its claimed top speed of 101 mph seems quite plausible.

Although there was some roll on corners, all-round handling was reasonably agile — or as agile as any vehicle loaded to the roof with wife, children and holiday gear could be.

But a few days in the company of the Espace convinced me that if you want to move the kids and kitchen sink, it is the car for you.

### VW CARAVELLE

**PRICE: £18,570**

AFTER two days of French sunshine, the Caravelle earned a new nickname — the Greenhouse. With two sunroofs, super-heated rays beat down on our heads to such an extent that I had to stop at a service station to buy a temporary blind to keep us cool. Kevin Eason writes.

The trouble with turning what is essentially a van into a leisure vehicle is that it is a compromise. The Caravelle is a big, slab-sided vehicle rounded into a seven-seater, laid out in three rows.

Once the sliding central door is open to the passenger compartment, space is cavernous. My three children could stretch out armed to the teeth with their toys, books and gadgets to play cards together, chat or sleep. The extra seats are not at the expense of luggage room with plenty of boot space to stack up cases, spades, balls, hair dryers... the list goes on.

Up front, the driver was catered for in comfort with a high-profile driving position and 2.5-litre engine which had 110 brake horse power, enough for plenty of acceleration and comfortable motorway cruising.

But where the Caravelle falls down badly is in the lack of creature comforts. There is the feeling that this is a utility vehicle pressed into service as a leisure van. A couple of sunroofs do not complete the conversion and the vehicle lacks the pockets, compartments and all-round niceties that make vehicles like the Espace and Discovery such a success.

It is a pity that the obvious mechanical efficiency of the VW has not been translated into a vehicle which cossets as well as carries. For example, there is nowhere near at hand to keep cassette tapes so they can be grabbed and stuffed into the stereo safely to keep everyone in the back quiet. Maybe that is carping, but any parents on the road with young children for more than two hours know how important tiny details like that can be.

## VW decides to turn green

The latest research by VW reveals that for 60 per cent of the time spent in traffic, the average vehicle is stationary. And since few motorists bother turning off their engines when traffic brings them to a halt, this is damaging to both the wallet and the environment.

VW believes it has the answer with a car that cuts out at traffic lights, automatically turning off the engine so that it coasts down hills, and which has a manual gear-shift but no clutch.

The Ecomatic looks exactly like an ordinary diesel-engined Golf, offers the same performance, internal comfort and safety refinements, but is designed to improve fuel consumption by a fifth.

The development comes at a crucial time for diesel fuel, which is under heavy fire from environmental health departments in Britain which are likely to condemn it as a health risk. The simple expedient of turning the engine off when it is not being used will do much to reduce the criticism.

The makers of the Ecomatic claim fuel savings of at least 22 per cent, a cut in carbon dioxide emissions of a

Drivers waste fortunes sitting in jams with engines running — so why not a car that turns itself off?

fifth, a reduction in nitrous oxide exhaust emissions of 25 per cent, a 36 per cent cut in carbon monoxide gas emissions, and an engine that is being used for 60 per cent less time in town. Existing diesel engine cars are already about 30 per cent more economical to run than petrol cars.

The Ecomatic, to be launched here next year, relies on a computer-controlled array of electronics. Powered by a 1.9-litre,

64bhp diesel, it looks, inside and out, like any other Golf. Climb in and start up, and things still seem normal, except that if you do not pull away within five seconds of turning the ignition, the engine cuts out. A touch on the accelerator restarts the engine instantly and off you go.

Each time you lift your foot off the accelerator, for instance when approaching traffic lights, the engine

again cuts out. The result is a saving on fuel and reduction in noise.

The car is slightly unresponsive, for the inexperienced, since there is a rattling doubt about whether the engine will restart when the accelerator is again depressed — and the embarrassment of sitting at traffic lights with the engine off, with everyone thinking you have stalled.

Should you want the engine to continue running, for instance if you need engine braking down a steep hill, a touch on a button over-rides the system and the same button — mounted on a stalk — turns it back on. The technology can easily be adapted to petrol engines, VW says.

One problem is that pedestrians and cyclists cannot hear the car coming when the engine is off. One VW executive suggests that liberal use of the horn might help — a

solution which will do little to help the inner-city noise pollution problem.

During a test drive in Germany, the clutchless semi-automatic gearbox proved more unsettling than the engine cutting out. The gear-stick operates like a manual shift so that the left leg twitches looking for a clutch to work.

The car is likely to cost about £12,000 more than the identically-engined Golf 1.9L now selling for £9,999. But John Abbot, VW's head of marketing, believes motorists who do the most mileage in town will recoup that cost within a few years of ownership.

Taxi firms, courier companies, postal services, as well as local government offices and company fleets will be among those VW will target first. But private motorists will also be courted. To overcome the strangeness of the vehicle, VW is considering 24-hour test loans for would-be buyers rather than the usual half-hour with a salesman. This is unlikely to be long enough for anyone to get used to the car's quirky habits.

VAUGHAN FREEMAN



## Winter warning

THIS is the most dangerous time on the roads, when dark nights and bad weather turn driving into a lottery. The AA estimates that there are, on average, 66,000 accidents a year at night — resulting in 1,659 deaths in 1992. The organisation advises: do not dazzle oncoming drivers with headlights, lower your speed, switch lights on early even in dusk and keep lights, wipers and washers clean and in working order.

**New Merc**

MERCEDES-Benz has announced that its new C-class range of small cars will start at £17,600 — £300 more than the 190 model it replaces. There are 16 models in the range, starting with the base 1.8-litre and including eight diesel-powered versions.

**Diesel success**

THE popularity of diesel is helping propel Audi sales to new heights. The German company managed a 35.6 per

### ROADWISE

cent increase in sales in September — nearly a third of them diesel models. More than 43 per cent of all Audi 80 sales were diesel.

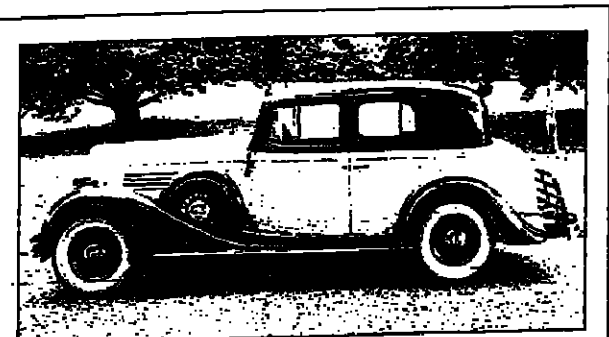
**Dearer Fiat**

FIAT prices are going up — but not by much. An average 1 per cent has been added to showroom prices this week, with the range starting at

£4,990 for the Cinquecento "baby" car and rising to £13,794 for the Tempura 2.0ie SX auto.

**Air of safety**

VAUXHALL is chasing Ford's initiatives on safety by offering a driver's airbag on all new Vauxhall Astras as a standard fit. Cavalier and Calibra models also get passenger-side



"You Can't Hurry Love", according to the Phil Collins remake of the Supremes song. He would know, because he went to his wedding in stately fashion in a huge 1935 Buick Eight Series 90 (above), which comes under the hammer at ADT Auctions on Monday and could fetch £15,000. The car was owned by Tony Smith, manager to both Collins and Simon Le Bon.

airbags as part of the package for 1994.

**More choice**

HYUNDAI's new Lantra range will start at £8,999 for the 1.5LS. The Korean company has revamped the model with new body styles, new 1.5-litre engine options and choices such as airbag and anti-lock brakes.

**Clean facts**

THEY may enjoy driving, but women do not like to get their hands dirty, according to a survey by National Tyres and Autocare. The chain discovered that two-thirds of women drivers are happy to leave maintenance checks to the garage or their husbands.

**DB service**

A MEMORIAL service to celebrate the life and work of Sir David Brown, owner of Aston Martin Lagonda for 25 years until 1972, will be held at St Peter's, Eaton Square, London SW1 on Monday at 11am. Sir David's influence over the famous British sports car maker lives on through his initials — DB — which are being applied to the company's latest model, the DB7.

### PERFORMANCE CARS

**TOYOTA SUPRA Turbo**, 0 reg, 1 owner, 28,000 miles, 1984, 2.8i, 16v, 200bhp, 0-60 in 6.5s, 150mph, 24v, 5 speed, 1984, 2.8i, 16v, 200bhp, 0-60 in 6.5s, 150mph, 24v, 5 speed, 1984, 2.8i, 16v, 200bhp, 0-60 in 6.5s, 150mph, 24v, 5 speed.

**TVR CHIMERA 4.3**, 0 reg, 1 owner, 28,000 miles, 1984, 4.3i, 16v, 200bhp, 0-60 in 6.5s, 150mph, 24v, 5 speed, 1984, 4.3i, 16v, 200bhp, 0-60 in 6.5s, 150mph, 24v, 5 speed.

**TVR 350**, 0 reg, 1 owner, 28,000 miles, 1984, 3.5i, 16v, 200bhp, 0-60 in 6.5s, 150mph, 24v, 5 speed, 1984, 3.5i, 16v, 200bhp, 0-60 in 6.5s, 150mph, 24v, 5 speed.

**VAUXHALL Cavalier 1.6**, 0 reg, 1 owner, 28,000 miles, 1984, 1.6i, 16v, 200bhp, 0-60 in 6.5s, 150mph, 24v, 5 speed, 1984, 1.6i, 16v, 200bhp, 0-60 in 6.5s, 150mph, 24v, 5 speed.

**WANTED** Urgency 300 ZX Top, 1984, 3.0i, 16v, 200bhp, 0-60 in 6.5s, 150mph, 24v, 5 speed, 1984, 3.0i, 16v, 200bhp, 0-60 in 6.5s, 150mph, 24v, 5 speed.

**PERFORMANCE CARS WANTED**

**CONVERTIBLE 0/20 A.M.C. Conv** or 1/20, please be realistic, cash, 1984, 2.0i, 16v, 200bhp, 0-60 in 6.5s, 150mph, 24v, 5 speed, 1984, 2.0i, 16v, 200bhp, 0-60 in 6.5s, 150mph, 24v, 5 speed.

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**MGR V8**

**REGISTRATION NUMBERS**

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**J6 NNY**

**931 K**

**L33 DER**

**7 LM**

**MSR 7**

**2 NGO**

**NME 9**

**RAW 1**

**RWC 1**

**SAH 21**

**TCH 843**

**6 TRS**

**1 WON**

### ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY

**TURBO R**

**ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY WANTED**

**ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY**

**TURBO R**

**ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY**

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Many personal computer users complain that once they have paid up, companies fail to provide aftercare. **David Hewson reports**

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هكذا من الاول







# India: workforce just round the corner

The vogue for companies to farm out information technology work to external contractors is taking a disturbing turn from a British computer specialist's point of view. An increasing amount of work is being contracted all the way out of the country.

In facilities management, where third-party companies take responsibility for aspects of an organisation's information systems, a practice known as "offshore programming" is becoming more common. The image this conjures up of Manxmen or Shetlanders is misleading: offshore in this case can mean eastern Europe or Taiwan.

India is a popular location, especially for software development work. The country has a high international reputation for talented software specialists, and its wage rates make it an attractive proposition for cost-conscious western companies.

"The Dutch-owned group, Origin, operates a software factory in Bombay as part of its Origin India subsidiary. The subsidiary is profitable in its own right, Origin says, providing services for Indian clients and acting as a conduit into the country for advanced IT techniques."

Origin is not taking the bread out

**Companies find that programming can be done more cheaply in far-off countries, reports David Guest**

of UK IT specialists' mouths, insists Andy Sinton, sales and marketing director, for Origin UK. "The reason we took this route was because we saw business not being placed in the UK at all," he says.

"We keep analysis, project management and consultancy in the UK, and the programming is performed in India. So at least we are keeping some work and some revenue in the UK rather than seeing it all go somewhere else. It works out at 50-50 between the UK and India."

The economics are simple. According to the company, its India operation offers European clients a saving of 40 per cent. "Cost is the current reason for using us," Uday Ghapure, general manager of Origin India, candidly admits, "but quality, response and service will

be just as important in the future."

Origin India offers more than simple software development services. It touts for business in a variety of areas, including migration and conversion for companies moving from one type of computer system to another, and reverse or re-engineering, which involves extracting from existing programs elements of structure and logic that might be used or adapted in new project work. These are advanced areas of software technology.

The average salary for an Indian programmer is equivalent to about £2,400 a year and academic qualifications are high. One industry observer says: "They've got MScs coming out of their ears."

Mr Sinton suggests that Indian software development staff are, in general, more highly educated than their British counterparts. That does not necessarily make them better, but consultants argue that a good programmer might be up to five times as productive as a merely average one.

In this, at least, software is breaking from the pattern established by hardware manufacture and assembly. To take the cover off a personal computer and read the origin codes on the components is to discover an atlas of the world's cheap-labour countries.



Andy Sinton takes a global view by using his company's Indian subsidiary to do British work

Tony Coombes, professional services director of Systems Resources, which supplies specialist contract staff to large IT users, has no doubt about the professional capabilities of Indian software development staff.

"We are aware of work going to

firms with offices in India in certain pockets of the market," he says, "and the people there are undoubtedly very good in terms of qualifications. My reservations would be on two points: I can imagine that communications might be a slight problem, when you've got a project

for a UK client being fulfilled by people in India; and project management could be an issue if the individuals are not familiar with Britain's IT culture."

Mr Sinton's response to the communications objection is that modern telecommunications can

very effectively shrink the distances involved. "Frankly, there's very little difference between doing the work in India or doing it in Manchester," he says.

He acknowledges that the quality of people running a project is central to its success. Here, Origin has taken another innovative step by recruiting ex-services personnel as project managers, on the grounds that officers have the kind of training and experience that no other profession offers.

India's reputation for quality software can apply in the reverse direction from time to time. ICL ran into trouble earlier this year when it used a team of programmers from the Bombay company, ICIM, in which it used to have a controlling interest, on a project in Stevenage.

The company was laying workers off at the time and the pressure of imported specialists, some of whom admittedly were in the country for training, won't welcome headlines.

ICL argued that the ICIM programmers engaged on systems development were specialists in that particular area of software technology, and that using them allowed the company to divert its own development staff on to what it called "more important" work.

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**MUSIC page 36**  
Oscar-winning American tunesmith Marvin Hamlisch brings his first 'serious' work to London

# ARTS

**ROCK page 37**

Four discs, 78 songs: ladies and gentlemen, this is the magic of the unsinkable Diana Ross



## Fine halls for Welsh rare bits

As the National Museum of Wales opens its £26 million extension, Richard Cork admires a remarkable transformation

If London owes most of its finest Impressionist paintings to Samuel Courtauld's munificence, Cardiff is equally indebted to the generosity of two acquisitive sisters. At a time when the British public viewed Monet, Renoir, Van Gogh and Cézanne with outright disdain, Gwendoline and Margaret Davies spent the wealth inherited from their industrialist father on a great collection including work by all these artists.

Even during the first world war, when the two spinsters established a Red Cross centre in France, they carried on visiting Paris and buying more pictures. Eventually, they left 260 paintings, sculptures and drawings to the National Museum of Wales: a bequest which transformed the Cardiff gallery into a Mecca for devotees of late 19th-century French art.

All the same, the Davies collection has never been adequately displayed. Ever since the National Museum was opened in 1927, the redoubtable stone edifice in Cathays Park has been admired as a confident late essay in Edwardian architecture. But once the final consignment of Davies works arrived there in 1963, the gallery became desperately cramped.

Chronic lack of space meant that the sisters' major bronzes by Rodin and Degas were never displayed alongside their paintings.

By 1987, though, the log-jam had become so intolerable that the Welsh Office agreed to finance a thoroughgoing overhaul of the entire institution. The old galleries were given new lighting, air conditioning and a 240-seat restaurant along with six new rooms at the heart of the building.

It all amounts to the largest publicly-funded museum development in Britain. And when the Queen opens the £26 million extension next Friday, Wales's national art gallery will at last be housed in surroundings which reflect the true importance of the collection. The new centre block doubles the space for art, enabling keeper Timothy Stevens to show all the most

outstanding possessions with an appropriate amount of care.

Not that the museum looks any different from the front. Although cleaner than before, the imperturbable facade remains unaltered. Only inside has John Phillips, from the Alex Gordon Partnership in Cardiff, brought about a discreet and sensitive metamorphosis. The old building was plagued with dead ends, forcing frustrated visitors to back-track. By linking the west and east wings through the new galleries, Phillips has given a crucial sense of flow and unity.

It is now possible to follow a coherent path through the history of European painting, sculpture and applied art since the Renaissance. Welsh painting in general, and Richard Wilson's idyllic landscapes in particular, are accorded generous space alongside English and continental developments. Claude and Poussin, both of whom impressed Wilson hugely, are represented by outstanding examples of their mature work.

The *pièce de résistance* remains, however, the Davies collection. Far from relying on an adviser, the sisters followed their own tastes after they began buying in 1908. Concentrating at first on relatively safe artists like Corot, they soon discovered the excitement of new work by living painters.

Bowed over on a trip to Paris by Monet's latest show, consisting entirely of his Venice pictures, they snapped up no fewer than four of the exhibits. In the end they assembled nine examples of his work, making Monet the most dominant painter in their Impressionist holdings. But Phillips quietly sympathetic new rooms, with their oak floors, bronze hand-rails, and pale brown wall-hangings, start with an equally impressive array of paintings by two earlier artists: Daumier and Millet.

They complement each other admirably. Millet's devotion to peasant life is at its most powerful in *Winter*, an unfinished yet expressively complete image of burdened faggot-gatherers moving



One painter admires the work of another: Renoir's *Parisienne* is on the wall, while Rodin's *St John the Baptist* is still under wraps at the National Museum of Wales

wearily through desolate terrain. The result is as opposed to the saccharine notion of Millet as his arresting *The Windstorm*, where an uprooted tree threatens to crush a figure fleeing from the tempest.

However tough Millet seems here, though, he still offers a contrast to the urban concerns of Daumier. Although Don Quixote makes an appearance here, we are conscious above all of Daumier the astonishingly concise observer of metropolitan life. Silhouetted figures gaze at the moon from the shadows of the oppressive city, while elsewhere despondent travellers seem to be decomposing in a wildly painted railway carriage.

On the whole, however, Gwendoline and Margaret shied away from figure paintings and focused on landscape. They did, admittedly, fall in love with Renoir's shamelessly appealing *Parisienne*, a softly handled conffection. But the cluster of Monets contain no people. His most spectacular Venetian view relishes the incandescence of sunset over San Giorgio Maggiore.

In the next room, though, his

three delectable water-lily canvases could not be more serene. Superbly preserved, they show how much solace the flower-strewn waters of Giverny offered the aging Impressionist as he withdrew into a nirvana of his own ordering.

Stevens achieves his greatest coup by displaying these diaphanous visions opposite the climax of the Davies collection — three canvases by Cézanne. The earliest, a view of *L'Estaque* painted around 1880, shows the master at his most spontaneous. Executed on paper subsequently laid down on canvas, it has a deftness of touch usually associated with an oil sketch.

But there is nothing lightweight about Cézanne's ability to define the row of trees that appear to hover in the midday heat, the cubic severity of the farm shed, or the luminous blue of the lake beyond. A similar adroitness marks *Provencal Landscape* — *The Copse*, a later and less ambitious image.

The greatest of the trio, however, is the still-life executed near the end of his life. Backed and enfolded by a

richly patterned cloth as majestic, in its way, as his beloved Mont Sainte-Victoire, a white teapot nestles coolly among six glowing oranges. At once austere and sensuous, this superb composition is a far more satisfying manifestation of Cézanne's involvement with still-life than anything to be seen in London collections. Its warmth, certitude and unforced grandeur make the nearby Van Gogh of a slashing rainstorm at Auvers seem slight and hasty in comparison.

Succeeding rooms contain plenty of delights. Magritte, Hepworth, Ernst and Bacon help to give these galleries their strength, but there are already signs in the sometimes dense hang that the museum needs even more space to display its growing 20th-century collection. Land is still available behind the building for another extension, but the money has to be raised. In the meantime Cardiff has every reason to be proud of the Davies treasures basking in their much-needed, thoroughly agreeable new home.

● The Courtyard Galleries at the National Museum of Wales (0222 39751) will open next Friday afternoon

## How I fooled them

THE fashion for art-market books by self-confessed villains continues apace. So far we have had *Drawn to Trouble: The Forging of an Artist* in which the Old Master drawings faker Eric Hebborn revealed how he "fooled the experts" with his "astonishing talents" (to quote the dust jacket). Next month's treat will be *Hot Art, Cold Cash* — the "first inside expose of the international art world by someone actively involved".

It is by the Amsterdam-born dealer Michel van Rijn. Yesterday, the publishers, Little Brown and Company, were fanning the hype by issuing review copies but banning any reference to its contents until November 11. But these contents have in fact already been extensively written about, in an interview with the author in the American magazine *Art & Auction* in March last year. With a clear conscience,



therefore, we offer the following nugget.

One of the author's tales of derring-do will be that he faked an entire treasure of barbarian gold and silver belt fittings which were offered in 1981 at Sotheby's. I have a feeling that the auctioneer's comment now will be as withering as it was then: "For Mr van Rijn, fiction seems to be better than truth — and unquestionably much more lucrative."

SARAH JANE CHECKLAND

## Spare us the grizzly sights

TELEVISION: Fun in outer space is better than another bear's-eye view

Something very disturbing is happening to wildlife programmes. And it goes something like this. First, a big wobbly golden-brown bear is shown ambling, on all fours, along a picturesque snow-topped Alaskan mountainside, evidently heading for its annual salmon-fest (this is last night's *Living Dangerously* on BBC1). It raises its snout, sniffs the air, surveys the scene, and ambles off again. At which point — and here's the disturbing bit — the camera shows us what the bear sees as it walks, a sort of rolling view pitching from side to side, accompanied by loud husky breathing noises. What I want to know is this. Does the cameraman dress in a bear suit? Does he strap the lens to his back or his forehead, so that he can lumber on all fours? And why is his breathing so laboured?

Since that groundbreaking series called *Life Sense* (followed by *Super Sense*), the automatic inclusion of this



Sci-fi comedy: *Red Dwarf VI* is short, weird, throwaway and incredibly entertaining

"You, the Bear" technique (or "You, the Cockroach": "You, the Vulture") has started to get a bit tiresome. What is the point? In terms of virtual reality, it stinks. And in terms of enhancing the story, it is so cute it's alienating. Certainly, in last night's *Living Dangerously*, the repeated inclusion of an unsteady bear's-eye view added only confusion, especially since the programme's commentary regularly emphasised that humans and grizzly bears are equally clueless regarding each other's mental processes and intentions, which is why they so often kill each other.

So, when a bear looks up from a pond and sees a line of excited wildlife photographers snapping their single lens reflexes — and we see them from the same angle (they presumably pose specially for the shot) — does it make us feel like bears? Well, no, it does not. To take one obvious objection, a bear's perception

is bound to be different from ours. And when it looks at a line of photographers, smells the scent and starts to drool, it presumably sees — if it has an imagination, anyway — a row of pick-a-nick baskets, on legs. Such experiments in virtual reality look pretty dim compared with the regular storylines of the cheap, holiday-going sci-fi comedy *Red Dwarf* (BBC2), which returned for a sixth series last night. The clever thing about *Red Dwarf* is that the writers, Rob Grant and Doug Naylor, take the same old *Star Trek* paranoid nothing-is-as-it-seems plot-lines — last night, brain-sucking giant-cockroach aliens called Psirens who attempt to bewitch the crew by reading their minds and appealing to their imaginations in seductive guises — and then cheerfully eject them into hyper-space without a suit and helmet. The effect is short, weird, throwaway and incredibly entertaining.

"There's an old cat proverb," Cat chorused Rimmer last night. "It is better to live one hour as a tiger than a whole lifetime as a worm." Rimmer was unimpressed. "There's an old human proverb," he countered, sneering. "Whoever heard of a worm-skin rug?" It was a good question, when the point about *Red Dwarf* is that the four crew members — Lister (Craig Charles), Rimmer (Chris Barrie), Cat (Danny John-Jules) and Kryton (Robert Llewellyn) — are forever being tricked into thinking they are tigers when in fact they are only worms with big ideas.

How their imaginations remain healthy under such a systematic onslaught is a perpetual wonder. But it is heartening to know they would never be fooled by a lolling bear's-eye view, as filmed from the back of a groaning wildlife cameraman.

LYNNE TRUSS  
DAVID SINCLAIR

## THEATRE

## Uncovering the heir's disgraces

The Grub Street Opera  
Wilde Theatre,  
Bracknell

Imagine the *Matrix* Churchill business putting the present government in real danger. Next, imagine that a bright 24-year-old writes a country-house comedy-thriller in which Tory ministers appear, minimally disguised as grooms and maids and footmen, frantically trying to cover up their rogues while someone in the uniform of a major flaps around setting off smoke-screens. Add 60-odd songs that put new words to popular tunes and, for good measure, imply that the owners of the house, who are based on members of the Royal Family, are incompetent, foolish and hopeless in bed. Even the gentlest prime minister might long for the power of censorship.

Roll back the years to 1731 and we have a broadly similar situation. Robert Walpole has already been mocked in *The Beggar's Opera* and now comes news that young Henry Fielding is expanding his afterpiece, *The Welsh Opera*, named after the Prince of Wales, into a full-length entertainment. The day before the new opera is due to open Walpole bans it, and soon afterwards the Licensing Act is passed that subjects the British theatre to censorship over two centuries.

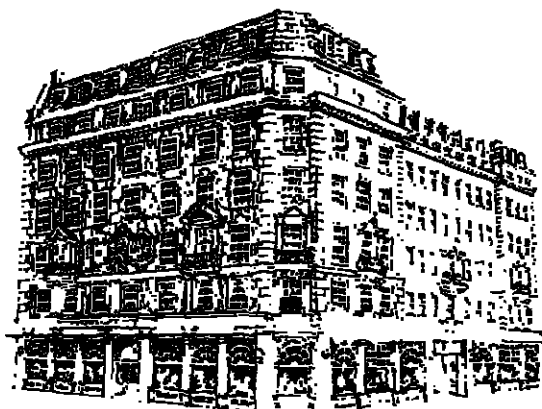
The Magnificent Theatre Company has dug out this unperformed opera. Ben Crocker directs the piece with a verve that suits its cheeky spirit, in which a conventional plot of true love upset by mischievous letters is neatly woven into some scurrilous attacks on the heir to the throne and repeated reference

to a society founded on corruption. Rich rogues thrive, poor rogues are hanged, and that is English society for you. On and around Kit Line's pretty handstand (decorated with Prince of Wales feathers), where five musicians play keyboard, violin, horn, clarinet and bassoon, the young Welsh pop-jay, Owen, hunts for a woman. Wearing court dress and the sash and star of the Garter, Richard Pocock camps up a camp role with a breathy voice, and arms up in the air like the claws of a white lobster.

The brief airs are pleasingly sung, and no character leaves the stage before summing up plot or theme in a couple of verses. In the Walpole role of Robin the butler Andrew Hesker combines urbanity with a dangerous glint in the eye; and in the exchanges with his true love, the horribly named Sweetissa, he and Jacqueline Charlesworth (sweet-faced and good at projecting injured innocence) do the period trick of addressing one another for half a line, then turn through 90 degrees to declaim to the audience. Like the show itself this scene is stylishly done and not a duff performance is to be seen. But *The Matrix Churchill Opera*, now that would really be something.

JEREMY KINGSTON

## THE TIMES FORTNUM & MASON READER EVENT



Today, readers of The Times are invited to a private viewing of an exhibition of antique chess boards and games tables to be held in the Antiques department of Fortnum & Mason on Wednesday, October 13. Over forty sets will be displayed, many dating back to the 18th century, and exhibits include examples of exquisite craftsmanship from more than ten centuries.

The evening will also offer a unique opportunity to mingle with the chess elite of the world, gathered in London for The Times World Chess Championship, while enjoying the unrivalled hospitality of Fortnum & Mason.

Readers will be invited to challenge International master Paul Littlewood, who will play a game of blindfold chess. The reception will be from 6.30pm to 8.30pm and tickets cost £10. Champagne and canapés will be served and readers will receive a special Fortnum & Mason gift on the evening. Invitations are limited and will be issued on a first-come-first-served basis only. To reserve your place send your cheque for £10 per person payable to Fortnum & Mason, with your name, address and telephone number to: The Antiques Department, Fortnum & Mason, 181 Piccadilly, London, W1A 1ER or book direct by calling on 071 734 8040 ext. 309.



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ROCK ON FRIDAY: The show that's nearly standing room only ... all the Diana Ross that fits ... Sheryl Crow takes off

# G'd evenin', Brixton, how ya doin'?

Very nicely, thanks. David Sinclair reports on how the Academy is dominating the cut-throat London gig scene

In 1979, a teenager called Simon Parkes went to see Blondie at the Hammersmith Odeon (now the Apollo). Stuck as luck would have it, in a duff seat at the back, he did what any true fan would do. He ran down the aisle, leapt over the barrier to get in a good position at the front and was promptly escorted out of the building by half-a-dozen beefy bouncers.

Would the management have been more forgiving had they known that just five years later, in 1984, the same young man would be acquiring a venue of his own? The hall he opened was the Brixton Academy, capacity 4,300 (about 1,000 more than the Odeon's) and, crucially, a venue with no seats in the stalls to hinder enthusiastic fans.

Over the past couple of years, the Academy has staged an impressively high proportion of the must-see rock shows in London. Spin Doctors play the second of three gigs there tonight, while Lemonheads, the Levellers, Curve, Carter USM and World Party with Aimee Mann are all scheduled within the next month. Indeed, the venue has increasingly wrested the initiative from the Apollo, particularly in attracting the most exciting American rock acts to play there.

This extraordinary shift in fortunes did not happen overnight. Originally one of four old London venues based on an American cinema design, the building was derelict when Parkes first became interested in it. He saw it as a venue with the potential to match places like the Lyceum, the Venue at Victoria, the Roundhouse and the Rainbow, all of which had closed down in preceding years.

"People thought I was insane," he says. "The concept of opening a building like this at a time when the market was shrinking, in an area which still has, for a lot of people, such a negative image, seemed to be a ludicrous thing to do. We missed the 1981 riots, but we were up and running during the 1985 riots, and it wasn't too helpful."

Parkes, or his backers anyway, have spent £2 million to date and plan to spend a further £1.5 million on refurbishments to get the place fully up to scratch. Yet in its first year of business the Academy staged a total of just 19 shows. They survived by hiring out the venue as a rehearsal facility for big acts like Bruce Springsteen and Eric

Clapton, who were preparing for shows at the 12,000-capacity Wembley Arena or Stadium (72,000).

The breakthrough came when the Academy welcomed the Clash at a time when other venues were fighting shy of the band and their volatile following. The show was a big success and gradually other acts started to use the Academy — and liked it.

Enraptured by the stranglehold the Hammersmith Odeon then had on the cream of the American bands, Parkes flew to Los Angeles

**'We missed the 1981 riots, but we were up and running during the 1985 riots, and it wasn't too helpful'**

with some brochures and banged on the doors of booking agencies to plead the benefits of his venue. When he arrived, he discovered that the only London venues the American agents had heard of were Wembley, Hammersmith Odeon, the Marquee and the Albert Hall. It would be a very different story now. The Marquee, once a mainstay of the club scene in the 1960s and still affectionately regarded in the 1970s, has lost charm and credibility since moving to new, larger premises in Charing Cross Road. The Hammersmith theatre, subject to a corporate buyout and too many confusing name changes (not to mention those inhibiting seats) has also lost out.

Elsewhere, there has been a quiet revolution in the capital's gig-going scene, much of it due to the energetic entrepreneurship of Vince Power. There was trepidation earlier this year when Power, an expatriate Irishman who started out running a chain of furniture stores in north London, took over the popular Town & Country in Kentish Town. The acquisition meant that he now presides over an empire of rock clubs that includes the Mean Fiddler in Harlesden (capacity 600 with an extra 150 in the Acoustic Room), the Grand in Clapham (1,700), the Jazz Café in Camden (450), the Garage (former-

ly the T&C2) in Highgate (600), the Powerhaus in Islington (400) and the Subterania in Ladbrooke Grove (600) as well as the erstwhile Town & Country (1,800), which has reverted to its original name, the Forum.

But theoretical fears about the concentration of resources in one pair of hands have proved groundless in practice. Apart from winning praise from all quarters for the high standards of management he has brought to the running of these clubs, Power's activities have not prevented other venues, both smaller and larger than his, from thriving.

On October 18, the Borderline, a 275-capacity basement club in the West End, will celebrate its fifth anniversary with the start of a "special" week of shows by acts including Pooka, Ian McNabb, the Milltown Brothers and Fish. Having flourished throughout the long recession, the club (along with Break For The Border, its parent restaurant upstairs), has just gone public and is now quoted on the stock exchange. It is currently planning to extend its activities into Europe.

"We've been called a thorn in the side of Vince Power's operation, and that's a description that gives me great delight," says Martin Creaney, the Borderline's entertainment manager.

Partly due to its size and central London location, the Borderline has cornered a lucrative market in showcasing new acts at record company-sponsored launches, as well as being the first stop for American bands who may already be successful at home and are looking for a foothold in the British market. Spin Doctors played there earlier this year, before their hit album *Pocket Full of Kryptonite* was released in this country, while Jane's Addiction, Pearl Jam, Deborah Harry and, most famously, R.E.M. have all appeared at the Borderline in the past. Such bookings do not come the club's way by accident.

"It's a cut-throat business," Creaney says. "Strings are pulled, and favours are constantly being given and called in. Two of the biggest agencies in this country are ITB and Primary. We work very closely with them. They know, and the record labels know, that if they put the bands in here for the first few nights they'll get the reviews and they'll get the press and that'll get the buzz going."



Australia's lizard king Nick Cave pulls in his, er, distinctive audience for a recent Academy concert

## NEW WAVES

The insider's guide to the Next Big Thing

There is a strong argument which says that promotional videos have short-circuited our emotional engagement with song lyrics. Setting aside the economic folly, this may turn out to be the aspect of pop videos that is most regrettable. All the subtle nuances and ambiguities of mood that we personalise when we hear the interaction between music and words can be swept aside by the stunted vision of a video director husting after a career in Hollywood or, worse, the advertising business.

In an increasingly visual world, this sort of complaint is as realistic as trying to ban repeats of *Are You Being Served?* But listen, then, to a singer such as Sheryl Crow. The songs on her album *Tuesday Night Music Club* are bursting with concrete images, yet they can only suffer from an overload of the obvious if illustrated on video. "We are drinking beer at noon on Tuesday," she sings, "in a bar facing a giant car wash." Or, in another song, the story goes: "Quit my job as a dancer at the Lido des Girls, dealing blackjack until one or two. Such a muddy line between the things that you want and the things that you do."

This style of composing has parallels with old-fashioned radio drama, and there are no surprises in discovering that Crow admires the writing of John Steinbeck. Rock is not literature, however, and as she is a professional who has worked with Stevie Wonder, Eric Clapton and Michael Jackson, her art is unlikely to be too precious for adaptation. Not embarrassed to embody the American rock 'n' roll cliché of jeans, cowboy boots, motorcycles and beer, she is an artist capable of speaking directly to every purist who bemoans the rise of Japanese cars, MTV or the kiwi fruit.

The content is hardly original, but Crow captures scenes beautifully, sings with a finely sanded rasp and writes melodies custom-made for car radios. Inevitably, they will play only too well on MTV.

DAVID TOOP

NEW ALBUMS: Let's hear it for pop's most successful woman singer ever

## A love affair Supreme

DIANA ROSS

*Forever Diana*

(EMI 8 27912/3/4)

SHE does have a distinctive, some would say lovely, voice. She has been uncommonly successful over a long period of time. But one can't help feeling a twinge of unease at the canonisation of Diana Ross is being so shamelessly orchestrated by her record company's marketing department. The budget earmarked for promoting her past achievements in the coming weeks would be enough to launch a new act virtually from scratch. Operating a tried-and-tested technique that has worked wonders in the past for Eric Clapton, Status Quo (several times) and others, the corporate strategists begin by selecting a suitable anniversary to celebrate. We are thus reminded that it was 30 years ago this month that the Supremes first released a record in Britain, a song called "When The Lovelight Starts Shining Through His Eyes".

Next comes some sort of lifetime achievement award. This was duly dished out in London yesterday, when Ross attended a presentation formally recognising her status as the female performer with the most entries logged in the British singles chart (an honour she could have claimed at any time in the past ten years).

Throw in a book of memoirs (*Secrets Of A Sparrow*, published next month), a "20 all-time classic hits" album (*One Woman*, released October 18), a massive television and poster advertising campaign and a string of adulatory magazine and newspaper profiles, and Ross's transformation from old campaigner into "living legend" status should be complete by Christmas.

But first, the bandwagon is given an initial, hefty shove by *Forever Diana*, a four-disc, 78-track, boxed set that combines nearly all her best work as part of the Supremes with the bulk of her hits as a solo act, along with five new numbers tacked on at the end.

Although most of this stuff has already been recycled and reshaped to death in the past, this is the first time that Motown and EMI (Ross's



The ageless, ever-lovely Diana Ross gives it some soul

record company since 1981) have pooled their resources to produce a retrospective that spans her entire career.

The Supremes songs (disc one) remain swiftly sculpted bursts of R&B-inspired pop, their seductive melodies and innocent fizz a cheering reminder of how the Motown label was instrumental in bringing the music of black America to the mass markets of the world. But while Ross's solo legacy is liberally laced with classics — "Ain't No Mountain High Enough", "Touch Me In The Morning", "Reach Out And Touch" — a cycle of diminishing returns sets in by the time disc four starts throwing up live versions of "What A Wonderful World" and "Amazing Grace".

For, although she has kept body and voice in tremendous shape, Ross's music has become distinctly flabby and middle-aged. Increasingly prone to cabaret arrange-

ments and slick platitudes, new songs like "Let's Make Every Moment Count" and "It's A Wonderful Life" betray a woeful lack of contemporary relevance, which remains the drawback to this otherwise spectacularly ambitious project.

ROBERT CRAY

*Shame + A Sin*

(Mercury 518 517)

ALTHOUGH rapidly acquiring the well-fed look of a happily married man, Robert Cray has yet to find respite from the turbulent emotions and broken-heart scenarios that inform his music. A technical sophisticate whose performances can nevertheless tap into the wellspring of crude emotion that nourishes the best blues, Cray has been accused in the past of keeping his music buttoned up a little too tightly.

However, on *Shame + A Sin*, the first album he has

produced entirely himself, he has relaxed his grip, while still keeping his finger close to the trigger. Typical of the album's dark but expansive mood is "Don't Break This Ring", with its buzzy bass, shimmering guitar vibrato, southern soul horns and an aching melody that in another age would have found a home in the Stax songbook.

A streak of humour leavens "I'm Just Lucky That Way" and "1040 Blues", the latter an uncharacteristically loose shuffle with a lyric which takes a swipe at the old bugbear of having to pay taxes. "Can't have any fun anymore, I've got to make plans for everything," Cray complains. Baby boomers everywhere will doubtless sympathise.

LED ZEPPELIN

*Boxed Set 2*

(Atlantic 7567-82477)

"NOT since Elvis joined the Army has an audience so completely refused to acknowledge an artist's inactivity," Cameron Crowe wrote in the liner notes for the first Led Zeppelin boxed set, released in 1990, ten years after the group's demise.

As if to confirm Crowe's observation, that four-disc compilation has since sold more than a million copies, making it the best-selling boxed set retrospective ever, according to Atlantic.

*Boxed Set 2* is a more modest double-disc package that scoops up the remaining 31 tracks from Led Zeppelin's nine studio albums that were not deemed worthy of inclusion in the first anthology. For virtually any other act, such a concentration of second division material would have produced an embarrassment of a high order.

But despite excesses in other departments, there was precious little fat on Zeppelin's musical bone and even at their most whimsical (the knock-about funk of "The Crunge") or self-indulgent (the four minutes of unaccompanied percussion that comprises "Bonzo's Montreux"), their music always retains its core dignity.

DAVID SINCLAIR

## TOP TEN ALBUMS

- 1 *Beat Out Of Hell II — Back Into Hell* ..... Meat Loaf (Virgin)
- 2 *Very ...* ..... Pet Shop Boys (Parlophone)
- 3 *Construction For The Modern Idiot ...* ..... Wonder Stuff (Polydor)
- 4 *Laid ...* ..... James (Fontana)
- 5 *Elements — The Best Of* ..... Mike Oldfield (Virgin)
- 6 *Love Scenes* ..... Beverley Craven (Epic)
- 7 *In Uttero* ..... Nirvana (Geffen)
- 8 *Very Relentless* ..... Pet Shop Boys (Parlophone)
- 9 *The Hits 1* ..... Prince (Paisley Park)
- 10 *The Hits 2* ..... Prince (Paisley Park)

Compiled by MFB

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# Law Society passes, summer 1993

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# Evans joins victims of Welsh revolution

The most surprising fact of the dismissal of the secretary of the Welsh Rugby Union (WRU), Denis Evans, even after so protracted a period of time, was its abruptness and finality. The dismissal for "grave misconduct", which arose from matters of a financial nature, was immediate. There was no compensation.

The WRU, which had prevaricated in the past, was in no mood to cavil in this case. With a former deputy chief justice as president, a QC as chairman and three more solicitors on the general committee, the Union could be said to have a pyramid of good legal connections — a veritable *corpus juris*.

Furthermore, in an affair that had deteriorated into personal acrimony and had assumed the characteristics of a vendetta, the decision had been reached as a result of

considering a report by the Union's auditors, which, by its very nature, was an exercise conducted at arm's length.

In the worst period in the game's 115-year history in Wales, the question must be asked as to whether there is dirty linen still to be washed in public? Is there blood to be spilled? The position of Jonathan Price, the marketing executive who has paid leave of absence, remains unresolved.

In the last four years, three secretaries have been paraded with their employers. The previous two, Ray Williams and David East, had resigned. The committee was no longer a place to hide.

On April 4 this year, the full-time staff of the WRU, 212 full-time staff of the WRU, as if taking their cue from the Zeigler's playing through the strategic of Welsh European policy, arrived in a unanimous mood at the civic centre,



GERALD DAVIES

Rugby Commentary

Pont Talbot. During the course of a choleric, ill-humoured afternoon, the ruling body of Wales' national game was asked, in its entirety, to resign.

Ostensibly, the future was caused by two factors. The first was the resignation of the honorary treasurer, Glynor Griffiths, in December 1992, who disapproved of the manner the secretary was conducting the Union's affairs. The other was the "leaking" of the report of the inquiry into what became known as The South Africa Affair. This was when Welsh players visited the Republic in August 1989 in

circumstances, since they went against the Union's wishes, and which forced both president and secretary to resign. This full report was only made available to the clubs in January 1993. The inquiry, conducted by Vernon Pugh QC, who has since been voted chairman of the newly-elected committee, was critical of individual members of the union.

Yet these two factors simply gave focus to the dissatisfaction that had been growing beneath the surface for a considerable time. Rugby standards, highlighted at international level,

had deteriorated throughout the previous decade. The irony is that the dismissed secretary had begun instilling the kind of significant changes Welsh rugby's playing structure had needed all along.

But what now? The elections that followed the rebellion in April brought in new members on to the 26-man committee. There were promises of change and there had been realistic calls of the game being returned to the "people".

The start augured well. For the first time, the Union broke with tradition and installed a president who did not emerge from within the general committee. For the first time in a long time, too, they elected a man, the Right Honourable Sir Tasker Watkins, VC, QC, PC DL, who began his tenure with a clear mandate to reform, instead of, as is usual, the case of the office conferring prestige on the incumbent.

If changes in personnel have been effected, what changes are likely in the Union's constitution, and about which there has been much talk lately? Recommendations are meant to arrive at the annual meeting next June.

As the committee members ponder this, they might be reminded, now that their rebellion has taken place, of the Orwellian fable of *Animal Farm*. A revolution had taken place there too, but, in time, as the heat died away, much was to stay the same as before.

At the end, peering in at the new regime inside the farmhouse, the creatures outside looked from pig to man, and from man to pig, and from pig to man again; but already it was impossible to say which was which. So much for storming of barricades. Might not the new WRU committee be indistinguishable from its predecessor?

## King comes down in the world to hold court



Srikumar Sen looks at the larger than life promoter behind the Benn-Eubank championship bout

If Don King had not been an extraordinary man, it is most unlikely he would still be in business today. With the departure of Mike Tyson he has lost his financial base, the heavyweight division, and yet he remains the most influential promoter in the world.

It is because he is so much larger than life that he can descend from the richest division to a comparatively impoverished one, the super-middleweight, and yet give the impression of not coming down in the world. He is the man behind the multi-million pound WBC title bout between Nigel Benn and Chris Eubank at Old Trafford tomorrow.

The super-middleweights will tide him over until Tyson gets back. Just as in the past he had taken control of the heavyweight division, now he has done the same with the middleweight division. Most leading middleweights, from light-middle to super-middle, have been enticed to find the unified champion. He has promised greater and greater rewards as the competition progresses. Benn and Eubank, who are making £1 million and £800,000 respectively, the kind of money they have never made before, can expect the skies if they can stay to the end.

No doubt the banks are still backing King because he is the man behind Tyson. Whoever has the heavyweight championship controls boxing. In another 18 months the world championship could be back in King's hands.

King, 62, managed to control heavyweight boxing for 20 years after he came out of jail where he had been serving time for manslaughter. Even though his first promotion was the Foreman-Frazier bout in Kingston, Jamaica, in 1973, his success in heavyweight boxing is the result of a long association with Muhammad Ali, after he promoted him in the Rumble in the Jungle with George Foreman in Zaire in 1974. Both Ali and Foreman were guaranteed an unprecedented £1 million.

Since then King has seen

himself as a promoter "of the people, for the people and by the people". At one time or another he has had all of the world's leading heavyweights under promotion. He made 21 heavyweight fights from Ali to Frank Bruno, into millions.

Despite his success King says he has never really been accepted by the white establishment. He says he is getting very tired of everybody saying he cannot get anything done without breaking the law.

"Every day is a struggle for me. I've had to go out and fight because I'm black man. Life without the law is where the real violence is. I didn't invent the rules, but played within the rules and I've been successful."

He says the media are only too quick to point to his manipulation while conveniently ignoring similar practices by white promoters. For instance, he has been accused of circumventing the law by managing both champion and challenger in three world title bouts through a front man, his stepson, Carl King, says: "It is difficult for a black man to get on. I've never been easy, never will be. Because they change the rules. When I started, I had to take fights around the world because I couldn't get backing at home. I still succeeded and will go on succeeding despite all the investigations by the FBI."

He says in Thomas Hauser's book, *Black Lights*, "Lou Duva trains and manages fighters. His son, Pam, promotes them. And he's got another son and a daughter and I don't know who else in the business run the white populace which controls the media, they control Lou. Me. I've only got my little son. People just don't like me for the same reason they don't like Muhammad Ali. We're not quiet, we stand up to be counted. We are the best and we are heard."

The media have often been more than a little concerned about King's influence in boxing. One cannot forget the World Boxing Council's (WBC) support for King when he tried to reverse James "Buster" Douglas's victory



King was all smiles yesterday at the prospect of a multi-million pound promotion for the WBC championship

over Tyson. King's preferences have too often prevailed with people who make the decisions in the world of boxing. Rules sometimes are not simply bent but twisted into Chinese puzzles to suit him. Lewis had to make his first defence of the WBC title against Tony Tucker, a King man; the bout between Benn and Eubank should not have taken place before Benn's defence against Henry Wharton, of York.

Despite their concern for his dealings, the media have aided in King's success by

nurturing his image. By representing him as a figure of fun they have given him to the public like a free gift in a cereal packet. He has become a cult figure, which has allowed him to escape focus of serious attention by the public.

Thus he has been able to use the world for his own ends by resorting to a level of boxing hype. It is as if he is a player in his own invention and we all want to be a part of the show. We want the ring to spill out of the television screen into our sitting rooms.

The "only in America" man mixes literary and political allusions — his most quoted figure is Ralph Waldo Emerson — and theories of life and liberty with street talk to give authority to his claims. It is as if he knows we are ready to ignore our own good sense and follow him all the way to the box-office.

King has distilled boxing into entertainment and in so doing has made the sport subordinate to himself. In no other sport does the promoter have such a high profile as King, with the competitors

living in his shadow. He is the main attraction until the bell goes.

In an age when boxers have aspired to designer wear in the way they once used to cherish titles, King has created a new perception of boxing. The boxers have become part of the wrapping, or rapping. Boxing has been locked in a world of unreality. It is not difficult to imagine King holding a multi-button joy pad and controlling his boxers as if they were sprites in a video game with 16-bit graphics and arcade-quality sound.

## Broken jaw rules Jones out of tour

MICHAEL Jones, the Auckland flanker, will miss New Zealand's rugby union tour of England and Scotland that begins later this month after breaking his jaw in two places in a training accident. Jones, one of the few survivors from the All Blacks' World Cup-winning side of 1987, will be out of action for four weeks (David Hands writes).

A number of candidates are challenging for his place on the tour, including Mark Carter, also of Auckland, the young Otago flanker, Josh Kronfeld, who played well against the British Isles in May, and Dwayne Monday, from Waikato, whose claims have hitherto been ignored partly because he is deemed too small for international rugby. None of them possess the all-round gifts of Jones, whose magnificent support play and handling is supplemented by a lineout ability rare for a breakdown forward four years ago robbed Jones of his devastating speed around the field, his other attributes have been more than enough to keep him in the New Zealand squad, even when his religious beliefs would not permit him to play in Sunday matches.

Even though a badly broken leg four years ago robbed Jones of his devastating speed around the field, his other attributes have been more than enough to keep him in the New Zealand squad, even when his religious beliefs would not permit him to play in Sunday matches.

## Davis reaches final

SNOOKER: Steve Davis attempts to win his 27th ranking tournament in the final of the Dubai Classic at the Al Nasr sports club today. Davis, who won the British and European opens and the Irish Masters earlier this year, beat Alan McManus, of Scotland, 6-3 in the semi-final yesterday. Trailing 2-4, Davis, who played with increasing fluency, took the next four frames. Although McManus rallied briefly, Davis took the seventh and eighth frames with breaks of 42 and 129, which included a fluked red to a bank pocket, to complete victory. In the final Davis will meet either Stephen Hendry or Ronnie O'Sullivan, the other semi-finalists, for the £40,000 first prize.

## DeFreitas free to move

CRICKET: Phil DeFreitas, the former England fast bowler, has been given permission by Lancashire to find a new county. DeFreitas asked to be released from his contract, saying that he wanted to move nearer to his wife's family, in Burton-on-Trent. Bob Bernett, the Lancashire chairman, said: "Phil's young daughter, Alex, is an asthmatic and he and his wife would be happier living nearer their relations. He had a couple of years to run on his contract, but we decided that he should be allowed to leave." The reason is understandable, but the departure of DeFreitas will endorse the feeling that Lancashire is in turmoil.

## Nourishing the roots

FOOTBALL: Football In The Community, described by its chief administrator, Roger Reade, as "the largest and most successful grass-roots scheme in sport", yesterday announced a £600,000, three-year sponsorship agreement with the fast-food chain, Pizza Hut (UK) Ltd. Most of the money will help fund sport and educational projects at the 97 clubs and associations involved in the organisation, which tries to promote closer links between clubs and their neighbours. Many of them are run by former professionals, including Tony Currie and Paul Power.

## Indoor sponsorship

BOWLS: Churchill Insurance, a Bromley-based company, has signed a £750,000 agreement to sponsor the world indoor singles and pairs championships for the next three years. A three-year agreement has been reached with the BBC for TV coverage and with the Preston Guild Hall to continue as the venue. The allocation of prize-money has not yet been decided. This season's championships will be held between February 21 and March 6. In addition to the main sponsorship, Churchill Insurance intends to support the game at regional level.

## Blue Jays edge closer

BASEBALL: The Toronto Blue Jays took another step towards the World Series by beating the Chicago White Sox 3-1 on Wednesday to claim a 2-0 lead in the American League championship series. The best-of-seven series moves to Toronto for the next three games, starting tonight, as the Blue Jays continue their quest to become the first team to repeat as World Series champions since the 1977-8 New York Yankees. In Philadelphia, the Philadelphia Phillies opened the National League play-off with a 4-3 victory over the Atlanta Braves.

## Schumacher stays put

MOTOR SPORT: Michael Schumacher, the Formula One driver, will stay with Benetton next season despite a tempting offer from McLaren. With Damon Hill and Ayrton Senna expected to be confirmed as the Williams drivers soon, Ron Dennis, the managing director of McLaren, may try to persuade Alain Prost to postpone retirement. Otherwise, Dennis will either have to gamble on an emerging talent, such as Christian Fittipaldi, to partner Mika Hakkinen or settle for somebody on the fringe of the big league, such as Martin Brundle, Mark Blundell or Johnny Herbert.

## Brief ban for Pongia

RUGBY LEAGUE: Quentin Pongia, the New Zealand second-row forward, has been suspended for only one game following his sending-off in the game against Bradford Northern on Wednesday and so will be available for the first international against Great Britain at Wembley a week tomorrow. Pongia pleaded guilty to making a reckless tackle when he appeared before an international disciplinary hearing in Leeds yesterday. Paul Medley, of Bradford, dismissed after leaving the bench to join the mêlée that followed Pongia's foul, was also banned for one match.

### FOR THE RECORD

#### BADMINTON

JOHN BOSCH: Dutch Open Championship. Men's singles: First round, P. Knippenberg (N) vs. T. Veldhuis (N), 15-7, 15-10; 2nd round, P. Knippenberg (N) vs. T. Veldhuis (N), 15-10, 15-10; 3rd round, P. Knippenberg (N) vs. T. Veldhuis (N), 15-10, 15-10; 4th round, P. Knippenberg (N) vs. T. Veldhuis (N), 15-10, 15-10; 5th round, P. Knippenberg (N) vs. T. Veldhuis (N), 15-10, 15-10; 6th round, P. Knippenberg (N) vs. T. Veldhuis (N), 15-10, 15-10; 7th round, P. Knippenberg (N) vs. T. Veldhuis (N), 15-10, 15-10; 8th round, P. Knippenberg (N) vs. T. Veldhuis (N), 15-10, 15-10; 9th round, P. Knippenberg (N) vs. T. Veldhuis (N), 15-10, 15-10; 10th round, P. Knippenberg (N) vs. T. Veldhuis (N), 15-10, 15-10; 11th round, P. Knippenberg (N) vs. T. Veldhuis (N), 15-10, 15-10; 12th round, P. Knippenberg (N) vs. T. Veldhuis (N), 15-10, 15-10; 13th round, P. Knippenberg (N) vs. T. Veldhuis (N), 15-10, 15-10; 14th round, P. Knippenberg (N) vs. T. Veldhuis (N), 15-10, 15-10; 15th round, P. 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Knippenberg (N) vs. T. Veldhuis (N), 15-10,







# Keegan in no hurry to manage England

By Keith Pike

KEVIN Keegan, among the favourites to succeed Graham Taylor as the manager of England should they fail to reach the World Cup finals, yesterday ruled himself out of contention.

Keegan, whose three-year contract as manager of Newcastle United was due to expire in May 1995, has agreed to a one-year extension. He said he hoped this would end speculation about his future, which had been unsettling his players.

Keegan, though, did not discount the possibility of managing his country later in his career. "Every English-

man would at some stage like to, especially one who has played for them, but now is certainly not the right time for me," he said. The speculation, he admitted, has been "very flattering, but has not helped anybody, not me, and certainly not Graham Taylor".

Since his appointment at St James' Park 20 months ago, Keegan, who won the last of his 63 England caps 11 years ago, has transformed the club. When he succeeded Osvaldo Ardiles, Newcastle were on the brink of relegation to the former third division, but under him they have won promotion and quickly established themselves as one of the most attractive teams in the FA Carling Premiership.

The cult status Keegan has achieved among Newcastle supporters has so far eluded Terry Burcher, a few miles south at Roker Park, and the

Sunderland manager's job looked threatened when they lost four of their opening five matches and were bottom of the first division. On Wednesday, however, Sunderland beat Leeds United 2-1 at Elland Road to complete a 4-2 aggregate victory in the Coca-Cola Cup. Their reward yesterday was to be drawn at home to Aston Villa in the third round.

Newcastle face an awkward trip to Selhurst Park, where Wimbledon await, while Arsenal, the holders, are at home to Norwich City in one of five all-Premiership ties. It was a 4-2 defeat at Highbury on the opening day of last season that set the tone for Arsenal's inconsistent league campaign, even though they won both domestic cups.

Having edged unconvincingly past lower-league opposition on Wednesday, both Manchester clubs have been drawn at home. United against Leicester City and Manchester City against Chelsea. A spread of fixtures will also be required on Merseyside, with Liverpool at home to Ipswich Town and Everton entertaining Crystal Palace.

Brian McClair, who was outstanding in Manchester United's victory over Stoke City, is expected to sign a new four-year contract at Old Trafford. Alex Ferguson, the United manager, yesterday described McClair, 29, as "a true professional".

Shrewsbury, who accounted for Premiership opposition on Wednesday by eliminating Southampton, face a more difficult test in the third round, at Blackburn Rovers. Blackpool's reward for knocking out Sheffield United is a home tie against Peterborough.

Mark Bosnich, the Aston Villa and Australia goalkeeper, may reconsider his decision to retire from international football. Bosnich said he is considering making himself available for Australia's World Cup qualifying play-off games against Argentina, "just to say I have been in action against Maradona".

## Marseilles in trouble

THE European champions, Marseilles, were yesterday in danger of being relegated from the French first division as their crisis-stricken season hit a new low.

Despite an emergency injection of funds by the club's president, Bernard Tapie, it was confirmed that Marseilles has not paid Bordeaux and Metz their share of gate money from recent league games at the Stade Velodrome and that French football authorities are studying the club's finances.

"Marseilles are in dire straits," Bernard Caizazzo, president of the company in charge of Marseilles' sponsorship contracts, said. "They are absolutely incapable of meeting their commitments."

An official watchdog body inspected Marseilles' accounts last month and sources close to it and to the club estimate debts at more than £50 million. In the past, other first division clubs, including Bordeaux, Brest and Toulon, have been relegated because of their financial troubles.

# Liverpool's finest keeping hopes alive



Rob Hughes looks at two men relied upon to take their teams to the World Cup finals

This is a tale of two cities, whose two leading goalkeepers are about to embark on World Cup missions as far apart as their breeding and outlook on life.

Bruce Grobbelaar, of Liverpool, and Neville Southall, of Everton, work less than half-a-mile apart. They have the same purpose, but Grobbelaar is already on his way to equatorial Africa, where his adopted country, Zimbabwe, must beat Cameroon in the final qualifying match.

Southall, meanwhile, has only to journey from north to south Wales, foreign enough for him, to assist his homeland in beating Cyprus as it strives towards the United States next year.

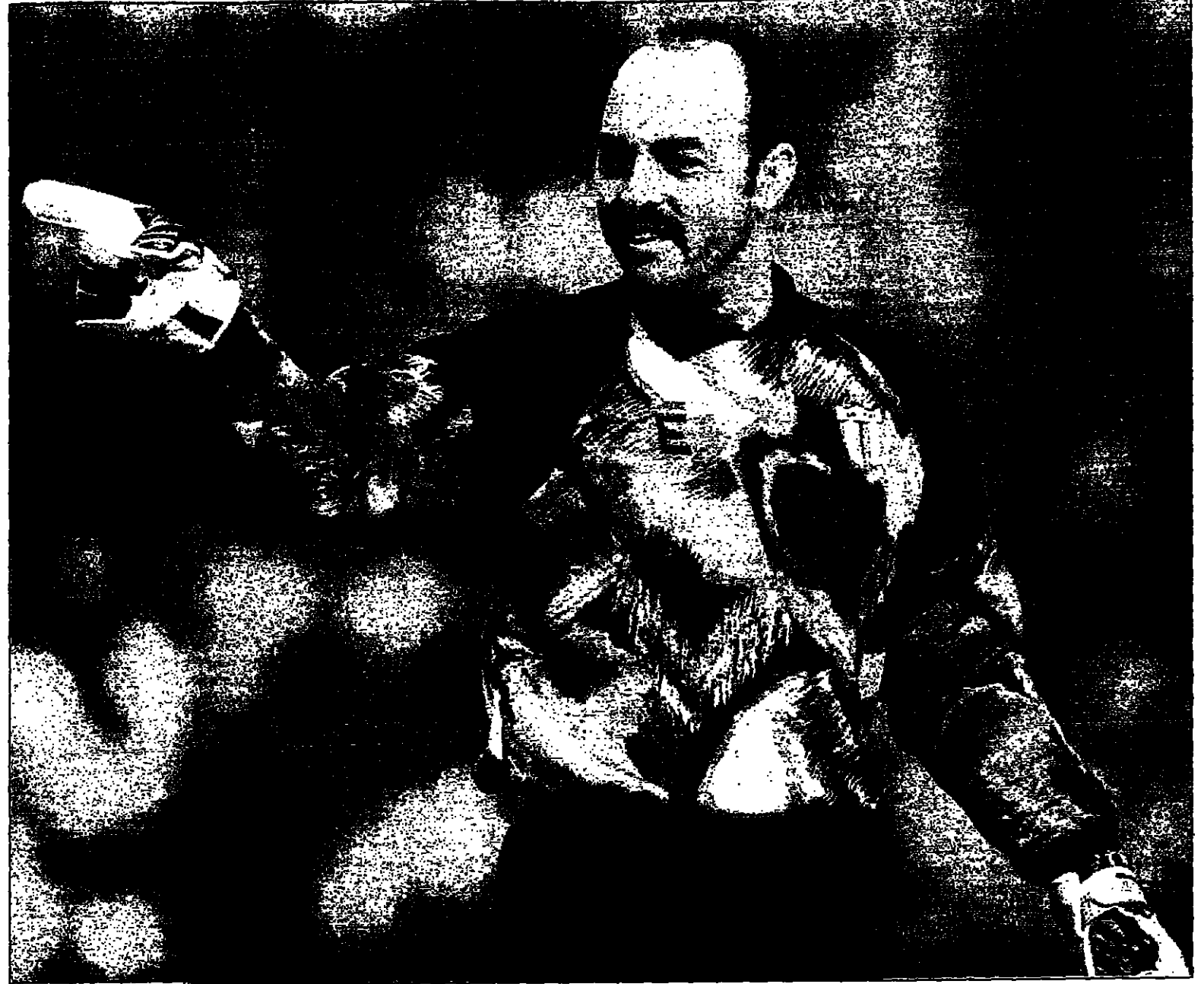
However, while Grobbelaar is proving he will go to the ends of the earth for a chance to play in the World Cup finals, Southall says that he will not go to the United States, even if by his hands Wales should qualify.

It is a remarkable story by any standards. Grobbelaar and Southall are unconventional men, of the same vintage, aged around 35, and have kept goal in England's footballing capital for a decade.

Southall's objection to playing a World Cup, during which he would pass the Welsh record of 73 international caps held by Peter Nicholas, is simple. His daughter, Samantha, is five. He does not want her to spend time with her. There are those who see this as a passing whim, that if, and when, the call comes, Southall will answer. After all, by next June, Samantha may have let go of his hand and started to build her own circle of friends. And if their special relationship will not tolerate a five-week separation, then, like Kenny Dalglish at a previous World Cup, surely the parental Southall has enough in the bank to make telephone calls daily.

For Grobbelaar, the complexities of the real world, the lure, not so much of the jungle but of life as he has lived it, has always been compelling. He is an acrobat and a gambler; and the British public has grown accustomed to his high-wire act, to his sprinkling of rash and sometimes mis-timed impulses.

But Zimbabwe was never one of those. He has lately almost contrived to put himself in two places: to play for



Proud to wear a Zimbabwe shirt, Grobbelaar is desperate for a place at the World Cup finals. Photograph: David Cannon/Allsport

Liverpool against Chelsea on a Saturday, to ride pillion to Heathrow, fly to Harare, and there to play his one-man defence for the country he, literally, once fought for.

He fought; he lost friends; he lost a war that was not his fight by birth. For Grobbelaar was born in Durban, South Africa, and was a volunteer fighting the forces of Robert Mugabe.

Having left that war, he became a nomad, trading in his agility and skill to keep goal first for Vancouver Whitecaps, then, via Crewe Alexandra, for Liverpool.

Such was his desire to play in the World Cup that he was prepared to forgo the British passport which came by virtue of an ancestor born in Cape Town Castle (which was considered British at the time of the Boer War) when, after a six-year struggle, President Mugabe relented and agreed to allow the old soldier to wear the national jersey.

And so integral to Zimbabwe has Grobbelaar become that, despite having an English wife and two children, he is sinking much of his personal fortune into Mondoro Wildlife Corporation, a game park there.

The allure is mutual. A year ago, when a World Cup match clashed with Grob-

elaar's testimonial at Anfield, the Zimbabweans moved, at short notice, their game to accommodate him.

"I would rather have Grobbelaar in goal and ten spectators then play with some other keeper with 50,000 watching," Reinhard Fabisch, the German coach to

Zimbabwe, said. Moving, as he always has, where impulse takes him, Grobbelaar still has an altimetry task.

Cameroon have aged since the heroic performances at the World Cup finals in 1990, and those of the players who remain are softened by wages from French clubs. They lost

1-0 to Zimbabwe in Harare — another of those occasions when Grobbelaar provided a swooping save, and concluded by lying on the ground, spinning the ball on one finger. Nevertheless, with the teams equal on points and Cameroon ahead on goal difference, the decisive match, on Sunday, is out of the hands of Grobbelaar. His forwards, simply, must outscore Cameroon's.

But what kind of wanderer is Southall? He has been a nomad, though on a considerably smaller scale. From his days at Ysgol John Bright school in Llandudno, he knew, at 13, he would be a goalkeeper, or an odd-job man.

"I wasn't good at anything else," Southall, with his disarming honesty, said. Crewe and Bolton Wanderers took a look at him; he heard no more. So, moving year-by-year from clubs in the Vale to Conwy League, the Welsh League, and the Cheshire County League, he served at tables, humped bricks and emptied dustbins. He was 20 before Bury took him out of non-league football; 21 before Howard Kendall paid £150,000 for the best goalkeeper Everton ever employed.

Eccentric in his own way, Southall has sometimes had to kick-started into making the most of his talents. There have been no problems getting him to work or to train under the likes of Gordon Banks and only a simmering, silent ambition. This same man, who questions now whether a World Cup is worth the time away from his daughter, once said: "Everyone would like to play in the World Cup, but Wales are struggling. Still, Pat Jennings didn't get there until he was 40. I'll be playing long after that, so there's time for me."

And if Grobbelaar has left his imprint on stages such as Wembley, celebrating victory by walking on his hands, then so has the recalcitrant Southall. He is one of few FA Cup finalists to walk into that stadium wearing flip-flops, and he customarily forgets to put on the team blazer, arriving in jeans and a sweater. Dishevelled he may be, but immaculate, as the whole country knows, in his handling.

The link between these disparate men is more than the distance between their missions and their priorities. They are both, to put it mildly, brave and stubborn, and both are principled. In an ideal world, they would both play in the finals of the 1994 World Cup.



Southall has been kick-started into displaying his talent

## Wales believe they have right back-row blend

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

YOU cut your coat according to your cloth, of course, but the Welsh selectors struck a blow for the vertically challenged yesterday by including Lyn Jones in their team to play Japan in Cardiff on October 16 — the first international of a long season upon which hangs their qualification for the 1995 World Cup.

Jones, the 5ft 10in Llanelli flanker, is Wales' answer to England's Neil Back. His physical dimensions are much the same, that is four inches shorter and nearly three stone lighter than Richard Webster, whose place he takes now that Webster has departed to rugby league. It may not be entirely coincidence that Alan Davies, the Welsh coach, helped in the development of Back when the two were together at Nottingham.

Wales found on tour in Zimbabwe and Namibia during the summer, that the continuity work provided by Jones allowed the bigger men in the back row, Emyr Lewis and Stuart Davies, to take the ball forward more aggressively.

"The back row is all about getting the blend right," Alan Davies said. He makes no apology for playing Stuart Davies, Swansea's No. 8, at blind-side flanker, and Lewis, who plays on the blind side for Llanelli, at No. 8.

"Stuart played well in Africa at six — it suits his tempera-

ment. In areas where we thought he might be naive he was excellent — the lineup and support play. I don't think it matters too much where he plays for his club. What is important is that numbers eight and six complement each other."

It has taken Jones time to reach the top for he was nearly 29 before winning the first of his three caps against Zimbabwe in May.

There are eight survivors from the Welsh team which beat Namibia 38-23 in June and ten from that which lost to France last March. Another tour experiment is continued in that Adrian Davies is retained at stand-off half and therefore plays his first full international at the Arms Park

with Neil Jenkins, who has played stand-off, full back and centre in internationals this year, at centre.

Jenkins is also the first choice goalkeeper and plays at the expense of Mike Hall, who captains Wales A against the North next Wednesday. "Adrian Davies produces a little more of the style we want to develop while Neil is where he is because we are looking to increase our passing options in the centre," Alan Davies said.

He will use the Pontypridd player at inside centre, with Scott Gibbs, the British Lion, at outside centre. How meaningful some gambits will prove against the Japanese, beaten 38-12 by East Wales at Abertillery on Wednesday night, remains to be seen but the match must be useful preparation for the game against Canada on November 10.

The Welsh coach is ambitious to win at least four of the six games his side will play before their World Cup qualifying matches against Portugal and Spain next May. For that programme he will have an expanded selection panel.

The addition of former international Geoff Evans and Derek Quinnell to the existing quarter of selectors formalises a situation which existed anyway, in which such individuals acted as advisers to the selectors.

Wales A (Northern Division) M Back (Pontypridd), S Hall (Cardiff), M Hall (Cardiff), C. P. Davies (Llanelli), W. Proctor (Llanelli), A. Williams (Swansea), R. Howley (Bridgend), R. Evans (Llanelli), R. McBryde (Swansea), L. Manton (Cardiff), H. Taylor (Cardiff), D. G. Llewellyn (Neath), P. Arnold (Swansea), M. P. Jones (Llanelli), S. Outwell (Llanelli), R. Williams (Cardiff), G. Williams (Cardiff), P. Jones (Pontypridd), J. Humphreys (Cardiff), R. Shaw (Swansea), A. Williams (Musselburgh).

## School of thought spurs Willison

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN KNOCKE-LE-ZOUTE

FEAR is often a powerful element in the production of good golf. If it does not paralyse, it concentrates the mind wonderfully, as David Williams and Ricky Willison demonstrated in the first round of the Belgian Open at Royal Zoute yesterday.

The Englishmen lie 132nd and 128th respectively — if not respectively — in the Volvo Order of Merit and the dreaded qualifying school looms large unless a big fat cheque is forthcoming forthwith.

The prospect galvanised Williams, whose 35th birthday is today, to produce seven birdies in a round of 66, to share the lead with Gordon Brand Jr on five under par, while Willison was one of the group a stroke behind.

"This is my last chance," Williams, who lost his card, tearfully, at the school last year, said. He is here by invitation of the sponsor.

Willison, who was called up as a reserve, used his vivid imagination and his putter to excellent effect. "I just pretended I was someone else," he said. "It seemed to work." If a fade was called for, he thought of Lee Trevino and if a draw was needed, he visualised Peter McEvoy, with whom he played often as an amateur.

Willison rolled in a 15-foot putt for a birdie three at the 1st. It was so beautifully struck that he was immediately encouraged and when he saved his par at the 3rd with another

15-footer, he thought, "I can win this thing." When he dropped shots at the 5th and 6th he thought, "Oh God, what's the cut going to be?"

The mental trials of the struggling professional are what Willison has found it hard to come to grips with and he loathes the grind. But six birdies in the 12 holes from the 7th, including three in a row from the 14th, left him in a perky mood.

Alongside Willison on 67 were some stellar names, together with Chris Morton, from Cumbria, who has been club professional at Oudenaarde for 13 years and now speaks English with a Flemish intonation. The leader of the Belgian order of merit, he, too, is preparing for the qualifying school but he is looking forward to it. "I'm not here for the money," he said.

Neither, any longer, is Peter Baker. More exhausted than he realised after his Ryder Cup heroics at The Belfry, he marked his 26th birthday by taking 83 and withdrawing and may be fined a minimum of £250.

LEADING FIRST ROUND SCORES (68 and below unless stated): G. Brand, J. D. Williams, 67; R. Willison, A. Forthard (Swi), C. P. Davies (L), C. Morton, S. Ballesteros (Sp), 68; C. McCall, J. Hawkes (SA), P. Broadhurst, N. Fother, J. M. Carstairs (Sp), G. Evans, D. Clark, V. Singh (Pak), S. Slater (Gn), M. A. Jones (Ire), 69; J. Hootday (SA), I. Palmer (SA), G. J. Brand, D. Ford (SA), D. Pether, M. A. Marsh (Sp), 70; H. Clark, G. Jones (NZ), E. Pether (Arg), W. Westner (SA), T. Pether (US), S. Jones (Aus), G. Livingston (SA), J. Van de Velde (Bel), M. Lauer (Bel), P. Cam, S. McEvoy (Aus), J. Pether (Swi), J. Pether (Sp), M. Pether (Frl), J. Coore (Arg), K. Wether, G. Day (US).

## Dalton aiming to leave fleet in the doldrums

By Barry Pickthall

TENSION is building in the Whitbread Round the World Race as the leading yachts approach the doldrums of the 5,500-mile initial stage from Southampton to Punta del Este, Uruguay.

Grant Dalton's maxi, New Zealand Endeavour, continued to lead the 14-strong fleet yesterday but, as the race veteran knows from previous experience, he will need a good deal of luck to maintain his advantage. Four years ago, Dalton's maxi, Fisher & Paykel, barely faltered in the calm, but in the 1981 race, Flyer, the yacht he was aboard, was stuck in these hothouse conditions for six days. "The variable conditions

on Wednesday worked against us. Today they are working for us. Who knows what lies ahead?" he said yesterday.

Dalton's only comfort is that his closest rivals, Merit Cup, Tokio and Galicia 93, all gybed eastwards towards Endeavour's course yesterday, their crews having decided not to break clear of the pack. If he runs into trouble, then the bet is that the others will too.

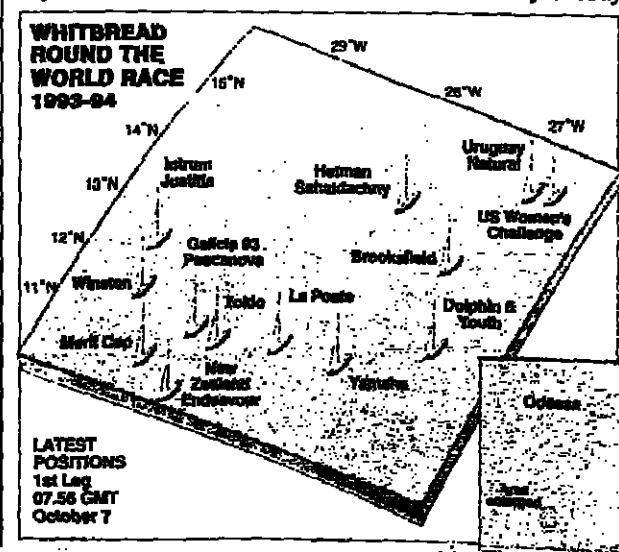
Ross Field, whose 60ft yacht, Yamaha, lost ground on the leaders after running into calms earlier in the week, hoped for better luck by passing through the doldrums 80 miles further east than the leaders. He said yesterday:

"We're lined up for the doldrums now — we've made our decision. On Wednesday we found our own private parking lot and got dumped. We couldn't get west and it was very frustrating because the others just sailed away from us. The conditions are very unusual; a very strange weather pattern, but we now have the wind blowing nine knots from the north-east."

Matt Humphries, whose Dolphin & Youth Challenge crew are experiencing the Doldrums for the first time, confirmed the strange conditions. "The wind is varying every 10-15 minutes. We are gybing on every windshift, day and night and it is tough work in the intense heat."

Anatoly Verba's yacht, Odessa Moscow Times, which trailed the leaders by more than 2,000 miles, has finally begun to make some headway after being set back by 55-knot head winds in the Bay of Biscay. "Life is smiling on us again," he said.

LEADING POSITIONS at 14:00 GMT yesterday with miles to Punta del Este (Uruguay) shown in parentheses: 1. NZ Endeavour (E), 2,000; 2. Merit Cup (F), 2,000; 3. Galicia 93 (Sp), 2,000; 4. Tokio (J), 2,000; 5. Yamaha (J), 2,000; 6. Dolphin & Youth Challenge (GB), 2,000; 7. Flyer (GB), 2,000; 8. Fisher & Paykel (GB), 2,000; 9. US Women's Challenge (US), 2,000; 10. Odessa Moscow Times (Ukr), 2,000.



سكوت دالون







Record-breakers clean as 11 competitors fail to meet requirements at national games

## Chinese athletes caught by drugs tests



Wang Junxia: negative

BY JOHN GOODBODY

A TOTAL of 11 Chinese competitors failed drug tests at the national games in Peking last month, but their two female world record-breaking runners tested negative.

Xinhua, the official news agency, yesterday did not name the 11 guilty competitors, their sports or the type of drugs found, although it said that the competitors would be punished according to the rules of Chinese and international sports bodies.

Wei Jishong, the secretary general of the Chinese Olympic Committee, said the organisation strongly denounced the use of any banned drugs by Chinese athletes, calling it a violation of the Olympic spirit.

When Wang Junxia and Qu Yunxia broke, between them, the 1,500 metres, 3,000 metres and 10,000 metres world records at the games by large margins, there were

suggestions that they had taken drugs. Those allegations were denied by Ma Junren, the athletes' coach, who said the performances came from running 170 miles per week at altitude and a special diet.

However, those statements have not been believed by many international observers. They could not understand how Wang could break world records at 3,000 metres, twice, and 10,000 metres, within a week, without using illegal substances.

The readers of *Athletics International*, a newsletter with subscribers in 45 countries, yesterday named Sally Gunnell, the winner of the 400 metres hurdles in a world record at the world championships, and not Wang, female athlete of the year.

Mel Walsman, the co-editor of *Athletics International*, said: "Many readers stated categorically that they would not vote for the

Chinese runner. Several others, who did choose her, added that they were not totally convinced about the legitimacy of her records."

The number of positive tests at the Chinese national championships is high — 2.6 per cent — for an event of such importance. The testing was carried out at the Peking laboratory, which is accredited by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). Usually, the rate in other laboratories is considerably lower, with high returns from out-of-competition testing and also in some non-Olympic sports. In 1991-2, the last year for which complete figures are available, the 23 laboratories accredited by the IOC found there were 983 "adverse findings" in the A sample from 87,808 competitors — 1.13 per cent.

In China in 1992, there were only five positive tests from 1,023 samples, a quarter of them being in

unannounced, out-of-competition samplings.

Until the types of drugs used by the Chinese are disclosed, it is difficult to draw conclusions, because the competitors may only have been taking a mild but proscribed stimulant found in ginseng, the herbal tea that is so popular in the Orient.

Professor Tian-Le Young, the director of the National Research Institute of Sports Medicine, said in London last month that the big problem in Chinese sports was the regular use of herbal medicine. "These are obtainable without prescription and can be bought in markets," he said. "They have some nutritional value but people do not know whether they transgress doping regulations."

It was drinking ginseng that caused Linford Christie, the Olympic and world 100 metres champion,

to have an adverse finding during the Olympic Games in 1988. Christie was interviewed by the IOC Medical Commission and exonerated.

However, if some of the drugs found in the Chinese samples are anabolic steroids, it will inevitably raise the question of how the athletes obtained them in a totalitarian state. Although everyone suspected the East Germans of taking hormone drugs in the 1970s and 1980s, it was only after liberalisation that the full extent of state-controlled drug-taking was exposed.

Hormone drugs help competitors recover more quickly from exercise and there is a widespread feeling that the Chinese runners could not cope with their heavy mileages without injury unless they were taking banned substances.

The International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) has said that its sampling officers had long-term

visas and could enter the country for "totally unannounced testing. The Chinese are one of the best federations to tell us where athletes are".

Testing by the IAAF was carried out once in 1992 and in April and May this year with 50 samples being collected. There was one positive case on each occasion and both are being considered by the world governing body.

Professor Arne Ljungqvist, the Swede who heads the IAAF medical commission, said the accusations of drug-taking by the Chinese world record-breakers were irresponsible.

"It is a major tragedy of the struggle against doping that the atmosphere has been poisoned in this way," he said. "Earlier, such a performance would have been applauded and rewarded and those who had succeeded would have become stars. Now they have become victims of suspicion."

## Brady admits defeat and resigns at Celtic

BY RODDY FORSYTH

IT WAS at 7.46pm on Wednesday that Liam Brady knew the curtain was falling on his brief career as manager of Celtic. At that moment, John Davies, of St Johnstone, cut through the Celtic defence for the second time to put his side 2-0 up in their premier division fixture at McDiarmid Park.

Brady, who later described his players as "having been asleep for the first 20 minutes", realised that they were unlikely to make up the deficit. So it proved. Shortly after Celtic left the field, beaten 2-1 by their fancied opponents, Brady advised the Celtic chairman, Kevin Kelly, that he wished to resign and would clear his desk at Celtic Park the following morning.

It was a decision that brought to a close Brady's 27-month tenure in charge of Celtic, who had gambled that the knowledge gleaned during his playing career at Arsenal, Juventus, Internazionale, Ascoli, West Ham United and, at international level, Ireland, with whom he won 72 caps, could outweigh his absence of

managerial experience. As it turned out, Brady could not exorcise the spectre of Rangers, who won their first Scottish league and cup double for 11 years and their first treble for 15 years as Celtic's inability to secure a trophy extended to four seasons.

Given as much money as the impoverished club could spare, he saw his investments fail. Stuart Slater, bought from West Ham for £1.5 million, was sold to Ipswich Town last week for half that sum. Gary Gillespie's notorious record of injury did not deter Brady from paying almost £1 million to Liverpool only to find that the player continued to spend half his time on the treatment table beside another risky purchase. Tony Mowbray, Andy Payton, bought for £600,000, will shortly follow Slater back to England.

Dressing-room morale deteriorated when Brady could not agree terms with such squad players as Peter Grant and Mike Galloway, both highly regarded by the supporters

because of their unquestioned commitment to the club. Grant was kept on monthly contracts for the best part of a year before Brady abruptly reversed his position and resigned the player on a two-year contract.

Having said, on his appointment in July 1991, that his priority was to win a trophy during his first year, Brady found the promise impossible to fulfil and he admitted this summer that he was deeply disappointed in Celtic's inability to rival the increasingly dominant Rangers.

The appointment of Joe Jordan as assistant to Brady during the summer was widely seen as insurance against further failure to make progress. It quickly became evident that the two did not agree on strategy and some players took to referring sarcastically to Jordan as "the boss", although out of Brady's hearing.

This season's statistics have been dismal. Celtic have only two wins from ten league fixtures, none of them at Parkhead, where they were booted off the field on Saturday after a goalless draw against newly promoted Kilmarnock. Nor was there any comfort in the Scottish League Cup, where Celtic were beaten semi-finalists by a Rangers team reduced to ten men.

In Brady's defence, it can fairly be said that Celtic's problems may be beyond the scope of any manager to solve, at least for the foreseeable future. The board has yet to decide whether to seat the enormous covered terracing at Parkhead or move to the proposed new stadium at Cambuslang, and there has been endless talk of takeover attempts by disaffected supporters for more than a year.

This explains the reference made by Brady in a short statement released yesterday in which he said: "A tremendous pressure surrounds the club at present — the management, players and supporters alike. It is my responsibility as manager that this should not affect the players. I have not been able to do this. For this reason, I have taken the decision to stand down."



Brady, after his resignation, is pondering a future away from Parkhead

## Durie's future in doubt after fine

GORDON Durie's future with Tottenham Hotspur appeared to be in the balance yesterday after he was fined and warned about his conduct by the club (Keith Pike writes).

The Scotland striker was fined two weeks' wages — an estimated £5,000 — by Osvaldo Ardiles, the Tottenham manager, despite apologising for his petulant response to being substituted during the Coca-Cola Cup tie against Burnley at White Hart Lane on Wednesday.

Durie directed a stream of obscenities towards Ardiles as he left the field. The outburst was heard by supporters in the main stand. Ardiles described Durie's behaviour as "completely unacceptable and irresponsible", but stopped short of putting him on the transfer list.

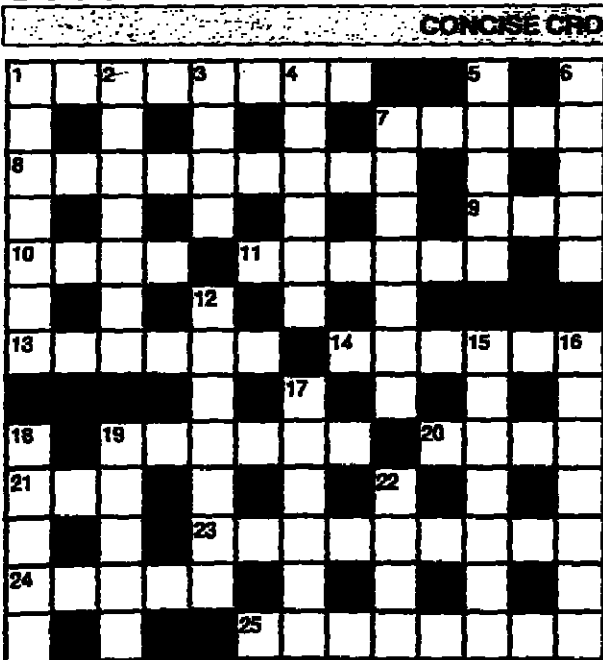
Durie said yesterday: "I

was wrong and I regret it, but I made no move to see Ossie today and only went in because he asked me to. I'll take my punishment, but I still don't really know where I stand with Spurs."

"Perhaps I have not done myself any favours with the fans or the club by admitting my ambition one day to play for Rangers, but people have asked me about it and I've just told them the truth."

Durie, 27, joined Tottenham from Chelsea for £2.2 million two years ago. A proposed move to Luton fell through last season when Tottenham said they wanted to recoup most of that fee. His opportunities were limited last season, but with Nick Barmby injured he started Tottenham's first ten matches this season.

Cup draw, page 42



CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 322

## ACROSS

- 1 Heavy rainfall (8)
- 7 Effrontery (5)
- 8 Casual, disposable (9)
- 9 Portion (3)
- 10 Detest (4)
- 11 Finally settle (6)
- 12 Conundrum (6)
- 13 Casual task (3,3)
- 14 Cause by force (6)
- 20 N Israel port (4)
- 21 Rocky hill (3)
- 23 Advantage (5,4)
- 24 Beau (5)
- 25 Perfume spray (8)

## SOLUTIONS TO NO 3219

- ACROSS: 7 Kelp 8 Near miss 9 Manage 10 Burner  
11 Mind 12 Piffing 15 Beginner 17 Sale 18 Shapes  
21 Hollow 22 Dominions 23 Crab

- DOWN: 1 Sedative 2 Wizard 3 Underpin 4 Lamb 5 Amoral  
6 Isle 13 Farthest 14 Notional 16 Impair 17 Select  
19 Hood 20 Show

## DOWN

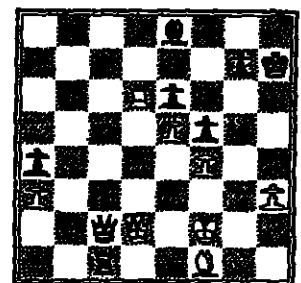
- 1 Trench digger (7)
- 2 Tough suit fabric (7)
- 3 Manipulated person (4)
- 4 Ill (6)
- 5 Bloodsucker (5)
- 6 Large ray (7)
- 7 Nitrite (7)
- 12 Loud outcry (7)
- 15 Male donkey (7)
- 16 Food mixer (7)
- 17 Tyrant (6)
- 18 Long shawl (5)
- 19 Desire intensely (5)
- 22 Stern, resolute (4)

## WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Bogolyubov - Alekhine, World Championship 1934. Alexander Alekhine, the great hero of Garry Kasparov, was an attacking player. Today's position is an example of him in action. Black to play.

Tomorrow sees the 15th game of the Kasparov - Short match at the Savoy Theatre. For tickets, from as little as £20, ring First Call, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on 071 497 9977.

Solution, page 40  
Championship Chess, page 11

## WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

## VALGUS

- a. A club-foot
- b. A sealion
- c. The aristocracy

## YUFT

- a. The hairy curlew
- b. The Paisley weft
- c. Russia leather

## PREREGNANT

- a. Accidentally pregnant
- b. A predecessor ruler
- c. A Byzantine chamberlain

## ROAK

- a. A yokel
- b. To cough
- c. A fault in steel

Answers on page 40

## Agassi receives Davis Cup ban

BY STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

ANDRE Agassi has paid the penalty for his indolence. The flamboyant Las Vegas, who could not be bothered to complete his contribution in the Davis Cup tie against the Bahamas ten days ago, has been banned from representing the United States in the first round of next year's competition.

The Davis Cup committee, meeting in London yesterday, also fined the United States Tennis Association \$1,500, which is to be paid to the Bahamas Tennis Association, for allowing Agassi to decline to play his second singles match on the closing day of the world group qualifying tie. With the Americans leading 3-0, it had already been decided.

The punishment completes a miserable year for Agassi. He started it as the Wimbledon champion and ranked No 9 in the world. He has since lost his title, dropped to No 21, is enveloped in mental turmoil and surrounded by speculation that his career may be over prematurely at the age of 23.

His appearances in the 1993 grand slam events have been controversially limited. He chose not to compete in the Australian Open and then, a victim of tendinitis in the

wrist, was forced to withdraw from the French Open. He was inactive for a couple of months.

Still the biggest attraction in the game, he prepared for Wimbledon by accepting an inflated fee to take part in the new grass court tournament in Halle, Germany. He was allegedly paid \$350,000, which is believed to be a record inducement, and was promptly knocked out in the first round.

Nevertheless, he was inspired when he returned to Wimbledon to defend his title. He went further than expectations and reached the quarter-final before yielding to Pete Sampras, his fellow countryman, who went on to claim his crown. Agassi's progress into the second fortnight formed the only shaft of sunlight during an otherwise wholly undistinguished year. He was eliminated in the first round of the US Open.

The United States, who have yet to appoint a team captain to succeed Tom Gorman, will enter the first round of the Davis Cup next March. The identity of their opponents will be revealed at the draw in London on October 19.

Pullin impresses, page 39



DOWNSIZING HAD BEEN ON WINSTON'S MIND FOR SOME WEEKS

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"Stuart played well in Africa at six — it suits his tempera-

(Pompey), J. Humphreys (Cardiff), R. Shaw (Swansea), A. Williams (Middles-

borough, J. Edwards (T. Upton), J. Edwards (T. Upton)

his pair at the 3rd with another

Coopers (Arg), K. Walters, G. Day (US).

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